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The Chicago Daily Tribune.

VOLUME 28. CHICAGO, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1875. NUMBER 177.

BROOKLYN.

The First Cross-Examination of Theodore Tilton Completed.

Nothing Dramatic Served Up Before the Reportorial Seventy.

Mr. Tilton Rehearses His Threat of Capital Harm to Mr. Beecher.

He Also Adds Tiltonian Corroboration of Its Portent.

He Shows Mr. Moulton to Have Been a Friend Fit to Grapple To.

Mr. Fullerton Closes the Day with Some Redirect Questions.

RELINQUISHING THE CROSS.

FOURTEEN WOMEN.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., Feb. 15.—There was a very large attendance to-day of people who expected to witness Tilton's catastrophe, the likelihood of such an ending to his cross-examination being inferred from the barrenness and sterility of all previous days. All the old familiar faces were visible, with others which had postponed their appearance to the prospective denouement of this morning. Fourteen ladies infused the amiabilities of their sex into the choking assembly. Of these, Mrs. Tilton, Mrs. Beecher, and Mrs. Field were known of all men; so, in a lesser degree, were two white-haired ladies from Ohio, Mrs. Phelps and Mrs. Putnam, who, in some mysterious manner, are related to the case as witnesses. They sat open-eyed all day, whispering to each other like a pretty pair of China shepherdesses of Watteau times. If they did not wear a very matronly handle to their names, very easily might they pass for two spinster sisters who had strayed out of a pastoral seclusion into the loaded air of our court. Besides, there were some brazen and veilless creatures who watched the play with less alarm than they would have looked upon summer lightning. There was one other dame in the motley throng—one other, and she the mistress of this enterprise, the queen of these revels. Mother-in-law Morse was royally alone in the midst of a bunch of other women, the two pretty, old ladies from Ohio glaring timidly at her, and Mrs. Beecher occasionally directing a steely stare at her face. She is an excellent likeness of Mrs. Tilton, with a bolder front and snowy hair. Indeed, in the ratio of Mrs. Tilton's meekness and dejection are Mrs. Morse's audacity and fire. Her chevelure is a wonderful confection of white puffs and frizzes, which resemble as closely as may be the icing on a wedding-cake. They tempt you to break off a puff or two and taste whether they are sweet. Her nose is a trifle aquiline; her mouth small and cruel, and her eyes as keen as a pair of daggers. Fortunately, for the weal of man, those eyes are usually sheathed by black-rimmed eye-glasses. I devote all the description I can to Mrs. Morse, because, without Mrs. Morse, there would not only have been no Elizabeth Tilton, but what would have been a thousand times better, no scandal. She sat in advance of her escort, like an Amazon Major-General riding in front of her staff. Her eye-glasses were trained upon her son-in-law, and from that dreadful battery she bombarded him with ceaseless scowls and frowns. Poor little Mrs. Tilton cuddled up alongside Mrs. Field, as if a gale of wind were blowing and she must hide from it, even in the lee, if nothing else were near, of a hay-stack. Mrs. Field never insults proprieties by showing any interest in the proceedings. Her business in Court is to fill the supernumerary part of a policeman. She is sufficiently stolid either for an Indian or a master-at-arms, and hers is one of the best-played characters in the melodrama. Such ex-like serenity under circumstances so trying is something to envy, but not to emulate. Some one once said that Mrs. Tilton would attract anybody in search of advice touching the cut of a night-shirt, but hardly the devotion of a great mind. I must confess that, after a continuous view of her red shawl, her hideous black velvet hat, and her fluffy hair, I must doubt her taste even as regards night-shirts. To be sure, she thinks Beecher's "Norwood" the triumph of literature, and, to grapple with "Norwood," I am told, demands a more than masculine grasp.

MR. TILTON,

like everybody else in Court, looked much better for his three days' rest and refreshment. He complained, however, of a tendency to pneumonia, and his lips were dry and feverish. His manner, however, was unusually calm and tranquil. To whatever cause it may be attributed, his former habit of retorting some quip or quirk upon his cross-examiner has altogether disappeared, and a gravity more consistent with the seriousness of the case has displaced his earlier acrimony.

Mr. Beecher and his wife were again present.

THE QUESTIONING.

The expectation of a final explosion was doomed to be baseless. When Evarts rose to finish the cross-examination at 11 o'clock, it was plain to be seen that he had nothing in reserve, so it jogged along until Tilton had to repeat his threat to shoot Beecher if he resigned. Beecher, who was staring up at the gas-jets in the ceiling, dropped his gaze to the level of the window. The audience made its customary murmur. There was no break in the tedium which followed until the episode of the female-suffrage newspaper, the *Revolution*, was reached. Evarts handed a small piece of printed matter to the witness.

"Is that the paper?" asked Judge Neilson, who eyed it curiously.

"No, it's a prospectus," replied Evarts, curtly.

"Umph!" grunted His Honor. "I thought it was rather a small revolution."

Tracy, who has looked very glum ever since Moulton and he had their duel, *a l'outrance*, had a chance to laugh when Tilton, being pressed as to the length of an interview in which the General took part, ingeniously measured it by saying: "It was so long that Gen. Tracy went to sleep." Tracy availed himself of the opportunity, and treated his face to the relaxation of a smile.

A FRIEND INDEED.

The only interesting part of the morning's work related to the question of Tilton's indebtedness to Moulton. The dialogue ran as follows:

Q.—Can you tell us what amount you are now indebted to Moulton? A.—I don't know that I am indebted to him at all, sir. It was with Moulton's free consent that I sold the *Golden Age*, with all implied obligation resting upon it which came from moneys which he advanced, amounting to a few thousand dollars,—perhaps five or six.

Q.—How much were you at any time indebted to Moulton? A.—I should think, perhaps, in one view of the case, I was indebted to him five or six thousand dollars.

Q.—At what date had your debt come to that amount? A.—I should think about the time I sold the paper.

Q.—Have you at any time repaid to him any loan or reduced in any way any debt to him? A.—No, sir; Moulton would not take anything in return. I tried to get Moulton to take my property in Llewelyn Park. He said "No; wait." Then I tried to get him to become the owner of a half or a third or a quarter of the paper, which he said he would in due time if there was no reimbursement in any way. Moulton told me to be very much at my ease about it. It is just like him, for he is a princely man. Moulton told me that he would see the paper was kept going; not to disturb myself about it. Once or twice during the year I spoke to him about his kindness to the paper, and told him I was under an obligation which I didn't know when I should be able to pay, and he always said to me, "Be quiet and easy in your mind, and if there is no other way, I will take one-half or one-third of the paper, and reimburse myself in that way."

Q.—When the first $1,000 was sent you, and a voucher was required of you, you declined to become a debtor? A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—And you immediately received the $1,000? A.—Shortly afterward.

Q.—What disinction did you draw between willingness to be made a debtor without the prospect of repaying and the willingness to give a voucher for data? A.—Moulton sent me, one day, a check for $1,000, desiring me by the hand of the messenger to give my note for it, or something of the kind. I don't exactly understand the principles of business, and I returned it, saying, "I can't borrow $1,000, for I don't see my way clear to pay it back." Moulton then came to me in person, and said, "I know you need the money, and never mind about any obligation to pay this back. I will trust to your future fortune, and to your integrity. Put yourself under no obligation." Under these circumstances I took the money. He said he would reimburse himself in time otherwise if I couldn't pay him the money.

Q.—You understood he was satisfied to have you take it without vouchers upon the general security of your property and your integrity? A.—I understood it was more an act of friendship between Moulton and myself. It was not an act of one business man toward another. It was an act of a personal, kind, and loving friend, who, through his abundance of means, was willing to help me in my necessity.

Q.—When did that force of his liberality and of your acceptance of it terminate, and how? A.—I don't think it has ever terminated.

Q.—You mean that he has continued to advance you money up to the present time? A.—No, sir; though he would if I needed it.

Q.—What I inquire is, when the actual advance of money to you by Moulton, in force of his liberality and your acceptance of it, came to an end and how? A.—The necessity of money was to help the paper along. After the sale of the paper, that necessity ended. From that time to this, I have been in a better condition.

Q.—From the sale of this paper what did you receive? A.—The paper was a little in debt, perhaps about $1,000, or a little less, I think.

Q.—On the sale nothing passed to you of a pecuniary benefit? A.—No, sir.

Q.—Did you or not, as a consideration, when you received the last sum, stipulate that no further advances were to be made from Moulton? A.—No, sir; I don't remember anything of the kind. I had for years begged Moulton to let the paper go. He did not want it to. I wanted to get out of it. He forbade it said if the paper stopped the cause would be injured, and I owed it to all parties to keep the paper going.

Q.—This money—that is, received by you from Moulton—was in part applied to your family expenses, was it not? A.—I made whatever use of it my need required.

Q.—Have you ever given Moulton any security for any of these advances upon your pictures, or upon any of them? A.—Never, sir.

Moulton having been discussed as Mæcenas, Evarts ambled along through bogs of explanations and objections, all of which related to somebody, not Beecher, who had offered to advance $1,000 towards the *Golden Age*. Judge Neilson ruled out the question.

THE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL, AND ITS RESULTS.

This morning's work ended with an effort to show by the witness' testimony that Beecher was not responsible for the treatment of Tilton and his family which led to the writing of the reply to Dr. Bacon. Tilton and Evarts established the former's position as follows:

Q.—When you wrote to Bacon, what had occurred in reference to this scandal, so called, that induced you to write that letter? A.—There had occurred a series of measures in Plymouth Church detrimental to me. A Council, growing out of those measures, wherein Plymouth Church was arraigned, upon the action on the part of Plymouth Church to that Council which represented me as having brought dishonor on the Christian name, whereas it was another man who had brought that dishonor. There had occurred a public lecture by Bacon, Moderator of that Council, who went home after the Council had adjourned, and said publicly, in New Haven, summing up the results of the Council, that I was a knave and a dog, and Mr. Beecher the most magnanimous of men; and, also, after that, a series of articles in the *Independent*, by Bacon, five or six in number, emphasizing that idea. There had occurred, also, a public insult to Mrs. Tilton and me by Thomas G. Shearman, Clerk of Plymouth Church. There had occurred an apology by Shearman to me, and a proposition on my part toward Beecher that this mischief which Bacon had done to me should be corrected by Beecher, and there had occured also an interval of three months, wherein he had taken no measures to correct it, and then I corrected it myself by writing a letter.

Q.—Now, did you regard your letter to Bacon as disclosing an imputation against the honor of your wife and your children? A.—I did not, sir; on the contrary, I took particular pains, in framing my letter to Bacon, to speak in complimentary phrases of my wife, and meant that that letter, while vindicating me, should also vindicate her.

Q.—Did you regard Beecher as in any way responsible for the Council that had been got up against his church? A.—Well, the Council was got up in reference to actions in Plymouth Church which he might control and suppress.

Q.—And which you think he did not when he might? A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—In what way, then, do you think he is responsible for the Council? A.—I do not know how to trace the responsibility of a public body to an individual.

Q.—Did you think that Beecher was responsible for any of Bacon's speeches or articles? A.—Beecher had given the occasion for Bacon to speak and write about.

Q.—How do you mean "the occasion"? A.—Beecher's affairs, Beecher's crime, Beecher's measures against me in the church, Beecher's defense in the Council, which was to my detriment,—all those taken together were the text of Bacon's articles.

Q.—What measures in the church had Beecher taken? A.—Beecher was arraigned before the Council practically and morally, and his defense was a paper presented before the Council, the essence of which was that my retirement from the church did not fling a shadow on the church, because I had brought dishoner on the Christian name. They had given me no letter of recommendation. If you will read the document sent by Plymouth Church to the Council, you will see that Beecher vindicated himself at my expense.

Q.—Where is the paper of the church, as you say, or of Mr. Beecher, that takes any such ground as that? A.—I presume it is in Mr. Shearman's tin box.

Q.—Are you not confounding the action of the Council? A.—No, sir; I am speaking of the document which Plymouth Church sent itself to the Council, to its own vindication in that body. It was an unmanly vindication by striking me.

Q.—You thought that this vindication of Plymouth Church before the Council carried an imputation upon you? A.—I know it did, sir. Bacon took it up, and quoted it in his letters and threw it at me as straight as an arrow to the mark. Bacon said, in no many terms, that Plymouth Church accused me of bringing dishonor on the Christian name.

Q.—I know what Bacon said. I am trying to find out what Beecher said. A.—Oh! well, you must ask him.

Q.—What was there in that situation which made Beecher responsible for any of those offenses against you that you found in Bacon? A.—I will tell you, sir. Beecher came out of the church one night, meeting Moulton and me against the iron railing, saying that he could control his Church; they would do exactly what he wished; he held them in his right hand, and any action which Beecher designated for Plymouth Church to do as necessary for this case, Shearman and the other managers would have it done. Beecher was thoroughly and absolutely responsible. They would have done anything he said.

Q.—You mean to say that during the whole four years you have understood Beecher to be ready and desirous to foster affronts and cause irritation with you? A.—No, I don't think he ever was ready or desirous to do that. I think that, perhaps, his wish was to the contrary, but he was in the midst of a church which he might have controlled, but which he had not the courage and nerve to control. He is the unwilling author of his own exposure.

Q.—Then you don't impute, or didn't impute, any design on his part in this relation, but inability or want of courage to exercise a power that he might have exerted? A.—I think in the year 1871 and 1872 it was the mere lack of courage; that Beecher felt that as soon as the opportunity was safe, and which he could turn upon me—strike me down—he meant to do so.

Q.—How early did you come to that latter conclusion? A.—After my last interview with Beecher in Moulton's study, in which I gave him an opportunity to rectify the mischief which the Council and church had done, and during the three months which followed. When he did nothing, I came to the conclusion that Beecher was going to turn upon me, and I then said to myself: "The time has come when I must defend myself against him and his church." Hence the Bacon letter.

Q.—You then resolved, did you not, that you would vindicate yourself, no matter what happened to scandalize your wife and family? A.—No, sir; I then resolved I would vindicate myself, and I sought my wife's vindication in my own, and the Bacon letter includes my wife's name like a jewel set in a ring. I have never sought any vindication at the expense of Elizabeth.

With a dull inquiry into the method by which the managing editor of the *Argus* got hold of Tilton's sworn statement, the morning session concluded.

MORE OF SHEARMAN'S RECITATION.

After recess Shearman once more inflicted himself on the audience, and droned out three letters from Tilton to his wife in tones so provocative of vapor that one old gentleman was transported in spirit to church, and straightway fell asleep. Evarts sat while his colleague intoned the correspondence. The moment Shearman dropped out of sight and hearing, Evarts, in a badly audible voice, said, "That's all," and the cross-examination was over.

THE FEELING OF THE AUDIENCE.

At first, nobody believed that another of the mile-stones on the road to a verdict had been reached. There was, first, a moment's breathless silence, and then a loud murmur of astonishment and conjecture. Truly enough, the cross-examination was over, and Tilton, heaving a sigh of relief, sat in his chair, so far as we could see, very little the worse for it. Each side held a long consultation, as if they were a Committee of Engineers waiting for the smoke to clear off before ascertaining the effects of an experimental mine. Mr. Beecher looked conspicuously serious, as if he were not acquainted with the schemes of his counsel, and supposed his last chance to have been lost with the survival of Tilton. Just before recess he laughed aloud for the first time for many days. He chose as an opportunity for his smile Tilton's protest that he had been forced into answering Dr. Bacon by a combination of circumstances over which Beecher had control.

THE REDIRECT.

FRIENDLY QUERIES.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—After a lull of ten minutes or a quarter of an hour, Fullerton, who had been talking earnestly with Judge Morris, rose and blandly commenced the redirect examination. After showing that Mrs. Tilton returned home of her own free will, and after showing also that she abandoned her husband to join the Beecher forces without any previous notice whatever, Fullerton asked the following question and received the following reply:

THE SELF-ABNEGATING LOVE OF MR. TILTON.

Q.—In answer to a question put by Mr. Evarts with regard to your wife, you answered: "I think my wife loves everything good and hates everything bad, and I believe to-day she is a good woman." Now, I want to ask you the foundation for that belief, in view of this charge that had been preferred against your wife. In other words, how you reconciled that statement with the fact that she is charged with adultery? A. [Hesitating]—Well, sir, that is a very hard question. I can answer only for my own judgment of her behavior,—not for other people's opinions. You must remember, sir, that I knew Elizabeth when I was 10 years old; that I became her confessed lover at 16; that I was married to her at 20, and that, for fifteen years of our married lives, I held her in my reverence, perhaps almost to the point of making her an idol of my worship; and when she came to her downfall it was the necessity of my own heart that must find some excuse for her. Other people might blame, but I must pardon her. I found that excuse in the fact that she had been entrapped in her religious teacher and guide, and had surrendered her convictions to him. She went at his beck and lead trustingly; she walked after him like one blinded. I thought she sinned her sin as one entranced. I did not think she was a free agent. I think she would have done his bidding if, like the heathen priest in Hindoo, he had bade her throw her child in the Ganges, or cast herself under the Juggernaut. That was my excuse for Elizabeth.

As he spoke thus sorrowfully of the weak woman who had tangled her own infirmities in the net of her ruin, his voice faltered and began to tremble. There was a great silence in the room, so that the rustle of a woman's dress was heard clearly by every one. All eyes fastened upon Elizabeth Tilton, whose cheeks were crimson, and who shrunk from the glare of curiosity like a wounded animal. Beecher's own gaze was fixed upon the gas-jets in the ceiling.

SOME SOCIAL TENETS OF MR. TILTON.

With regard to woman's suffrage, marriage, and divorce, the following dialogue occurred:

Q.—The Woman-Suffrage movement has been alluded to. What part did Mrs. Tilton take in that? A.—An active part, and attended the meetings at which Beecher spoke.

Q.—How long ago since she began to express these views? A.—Before I did.

Q.—Did she inspire you to take up the movement? A.—Yes, sir; she did.

Q.—Your opinions as to marriage and divorce have been quoted. State your views upon these subjects entertained at the time. A.—I have never entertained any others than the one entertained all over the world: that the union of one man and one woman was a perfect marriage—for better or worse, for sickness or health. With regard to divorce, I held a not-so-general opinion: that divorce might be granted for more than one cause; in New England and Western States divorce could be granted for several causes; New York was exceptional in this matter, and the sanctity of marriage demanded that the New York code should be changed in this respect.

Q.—You do not hold that a man could leave his wife, having found an affinity? A.—No, sir; that is free-love. I do not know that free-love has any other secret.

Q.—Something has been said by you about marriage only continuing while both parties were willing. Your opinion is that the law should regulate this matter? A.—My opinion is that the civil law of contracts should regulate the matter.

After this came Tilton's solemn proclamation against free love; "In all my writings—and they are a volume—I have always condemned the doctrines of free-love, knowing nothing of them in my own experience until my heart was pierced by the discovery that free-love had been practiced in my own house to the destruction of my own family."

A loud bustle of comment flew around the room at this dagger-thrust at Beecher.

THE CONCLUDING INCIDENTS

of the afternoon session were a quotation of Mrs. Morse's menace to cut holes in the portrait of Beecher and a desperate battle between Evarts and Beach over the admission of seven photographs found in a secret closet in which Mrs. Tilton used to conceal her mementos of Beecher, and all of which photographs, by a curious coincidence, were likenesses of Beecher in seven different positions. They were finally admitted in evidence, as Fullerton put it, "as the deadly instrument is admitted in a case of homicide."

While the jury examined them, Beecher seemed rather downcast, but, recovering his spirits, joined the foreman in mirthfully criticising his portraits when the jurors were done with them. The session concluded with an eloquent explanation of Tilton's change from the austere dominion of Calvinism to perfect emancipation from any sect.

DOCTOR SYNTAX.

WOODHULL AGAIN.

ANOTHER INTERVIEW WITH VIC.

From Mrs. Burnham's New York Letter to the St. Louis Republican.

I had a long and interesting talk with Victoria Woodhull the other day. Mrs. Woodhull expects to be called as witness by the Beecher faction, and, from several facts connected with this lady's movements, perhaps she will be. Mrs. W. is justly indignant at the face Tilton has put upon his relations with her. She reads with contempt the lies (she claims) he tells of their sequaintance. Far from her having told him of the affairs of his wife and Beecher, she states Theodore made a clean breast of his family affairs upon a first interview. Instead of the story coming from her or to her through any other channel, it was Theodore who, sitting with her at the foot of Battle Monument, told her of stamping the wedding-ring into the earth, and showed her the spot where the ebullition of marital indignation occurred.

She refers with conscious power to interviews with Beecher, when that hero shed tears and avowed his cowardice. There are motives and there are motives. She has (no doubt about it) a good and a sufficient motive for testifying against Tilton, since "Hell has no fury like a woman scorned," and Tilton's evidence has been of a most scornful character; and without doubt she has some very forcible reasons for espousing the Beecher side of the business.

THE CRUEL WINTER.

Terrible Effects of the Extreme Cold on the Massachusetts Coast.

Provincetown Harbor Closed Up By an Immense Field of Ice.

The Lives of 150 Fishermen in Immediate Danger.

PROVINCETOWN HARBOR.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

BOSTON, Mass., Feb. 15.—Never before, within the memory of any inhabitants along the Cape coast, has ice formed in the Bay to such an extent as at the present time. At Provincetown the harbor is closed up entirely, and a vast field of ice fills the Bay between Wood End and the southern part of the Monument in Sandwich, 21 miles across, and extends clear up to Brewster and Orleans, a distance of 30 miles from the water line. The sight is a strange one. Where always before the eye has seen the blue waves of Ocean toss is now a plain of snow, while the ice is only broken here and there by vessels wrapped and well-nigh hidden in the cold embrace of the new element, and high, jagged piles of ice were thrown up by the action of the wind and tide. The scene is dreary and desolate, but it affords no hint of the awful peril which threatens the lives of 150 or more fishermen as fast imprisoned upon their vessels as if found with chains behind bolts and bars. Here are twenty-eight vessels, varying in size from 500 to 200 tons, held immovable. Most of them are fishing schooners of about 100 tons burden, carrying from ten to fifteen men, and provisions for a three or four days' cruse, and they have already been bound in nearly that time. Food and water are fast giving out. Aid cannot reach them, nor can they in many instances reach it. A special despatch to the *Daily Advertiser* from Provincetown says that the only change in the situation is for the worse, and growing out of provisions. The wind blows with relentless violence, and with hourly-increasing coldness. All the indications are that to-morrow will be the coldest day in the sweep of this terrible wave of frost. Should the grip of ice hold on, the men on many of the schooners will be taken off only for burial. To-morrow, if the cold continues, all will probably take the risk of saving their lives by a 5 or 10 mile walk over ice-hummocks and air-holes. Ice-cakes piled up on one another to the height of many feet, with here and there wide open stretches of blue sea intervening, forbid any attempt on the part of help from the shore. Beyond question there are ten or twelve schooners on which there is no coal, no water, and perhaps not twenty-four hours' food. Sons of the men on the ice-locked schooners succeeded to-day in reaching the shore. A few recurred with what provisions they could carry to succor the forlorn hope. The passage occupied hours, and was attended with imminent peril. Several times did one or the other fall into the icy deep and was rescued by his companions. The majority departed for their homes, leaving their vessels to their fate. The Gallatin arrived to-day, but can do nothing. To-morrow Capt. Snow will try to reach the southernmost schooner with dories, and carry provisions and water, but the chances are that the effort will be in vain.

THE WRECK OF THE JOHN ROMMELL, JR.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

BOSTON, Mass., Feb. 15.—The story of the wreck of the schooner John Rommell, Jr., of New Haven, is a peculiarly harrowing one. She had a crew of five men on board. Three weeks ago last Sunday she sailed from a port in Florida with a cargo of live oak for the Charlestown Navy-Yard. She lost her forsail in a gale of wind while in the Gulf Stream, six weeks ago to-day. After an unusually long voyage, she sighted Cape Cod. The Captain tried to make the harbor in the teeth of the gale, but was driven out to sea again. On Wednesday another attempt was made to find a harbor. The weather was warmer, and it was raining. Provisions were running short, and the men were on short allowance, but a strong north wind coming up, blew the schooner off again. About midnight the wind veered to the northwest, blew a gale and was bitter cold. The vessel was soon covered with frozen spray, and a large portion of the rigging was lost. The schooner became unmanageable. Fuel, for the cabin was exhausted. The men were half famished, and huddled together in the cabin for warmth, while they were driven helpless they knew not to what fate. Just before 3 o'clock Thursday morning, the vessel struck the sandy shore. The men rushed on the slippery deck, and, scrambling into the rigging, held fast to the icy ropes. The sea, covered with blocks of ice, burst over the deck, and crushed through into the cabin. The men's clothes were wet and frozen. A sandreef was exposed on the lee-side. In about twenty minutes one of the men threw himself overboard and attempted to reach the shore. He could make but slow progress, and every wave enveloped him. After a long struggle he reached the shore, and was cared for by persons from the Government life saving station near by, who had come to the spot. Watching their opportunity of going out on the reef between the waves, they rescued the rest from the rigging, except one who was washed overboard. He reached the shore with the aid of the rescuing party, but after walk 200 or 300 yards toward shelter, he fell, frozen to death. By noon the vessel was broken to pieces. All the rescued men had their limbs badly frozen, and have suffered intense agony. Three of them are now here in hospital.

MICHIGAN FRUIT PROSPECTS.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

KALAMAZOO, Mich., Feb. 15.—An examination of the peach-buds here, and especially at South Haven, gives promise of fruit after all. The early Crawfords, the tenderest variety, show 10 per cent good buds, and the hardier sorts rate much larger. The mercury has been 23 below. The bud-wood is splendidly ripened, and vines laid down are all right. Further up the lake it is not so promising.

WASHINGTON.

List of Western Items in the Sundry Civil Appropriation Bill.

Pinchback's Chances for Admission as Senator Good.

A General Clearing-Out of Federal Officials in Louisiana Talked Of.

Bookkeeper Dillon Tells What He Knows of Those Thousand-Dollar Bills.

Large Increase in Customs and Internal Revenue Receipts.

THE SUNDRY CIVIL BILL.

WESTERN ITEMS THEREIN.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 15.—The Sundry Civil Appropriation bill will be reported to the House this week. It will contain the following items of general and Western interest: South Manitou light station, Michigan, for protecting the site of the light-house at South Manitou, Mich., $2,500; for re-establishing range-lights at Eagle Harbor, Lake Superior, $8,000; for a light-house on Passage Island, Lake Superior, $18,000, provided that this appropriation shall not be expended until the Government of the Dominion of Canada shall build a light-house on Rochester Reef, at the mouth of the Detroit River; for procuring a proper supply of good water at the light station at Chicago, Ill., $1,200; for the erecting of pier head-lights on the Northern and Northwestern lakes, $20,000; for completing the depot for the storage of oil and other supplies at Detroit, Mich., and building a new landing thereat, $10,000; for surveying the public lands in Minnesota at rates not exceeding $15 per lineal mile for standard lines, $12 for township, and $10 for section-lines, $30,000; for protecting the site of the light-house at Skilligallee, Isle aux Galets, Mich., $5,000; for completing the light-house at Poverty Island, Lake Michigan, and Wisconsin, $3,000; for the continuation of the geological and geographical survey of the Territories of the United States, under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, by the first division, under T. Y. Hayden, in Colorado, and such adjacent portions of Utah and New Mexico as were omitted the preceding year, $20,000; and by the second division, under J. W. Powell, in Utah, $20,000; in all $80,000, to be immediately available; for the preparation for publication of the maps, geological sections, and other engravings necessary to illustrate the reports of the United States Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories, $40,000, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior; for the introduction of shad into the waters of the Pacific States, the Gulf States, and of the Mississippi Valley, and of salmon, white fish, and other useful pond fishes, into the waters of the United States to which they are best adapted, $47,500, to be expended under the direction of the United States Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries.

THE ARSENALS.

The Secretary of War is directed to cause an examination to be made into the condition of United States arsenals east of the Mississippi River, and to report to the next Congress how many of the same can be sold without interfering with the necessities of the military service, with an estimate of the amount that can be realized from the sale of such of the same whenever such sale shall be directed by Congress.

For the continuation of the survey of the Northern and Northwestern lakes, $75,000; to enable the Secretary of War to pay the claims of the Dakota volunteer forces, as examined and reported upon by Inspector-General Hardie, $33,900, provided that the proper accounting officers of the Treasury shall further examine, pass upon, and approve said claims, in the same manner as was provided for in the adjustment of the Montana war-claims under the act of March 3, 1873; for a shop as a wood-working and gun-carriage shop for the Rock Island Arsenal, $178,000; for shop for a rolling-mill and for forging-shop for the Armory, $74,000; for furnishing power to the shops already built, $18,500; for the care and preservation of the Rock Island bridge, $13,000, and this sum and the appropriation for said bridge for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1875, shall be expended in accordance with the joint resolution in relation to the Rock Island bridge, approved July 20, 1868, and the contract between the United States and the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Company, and the Secretary of War, shall within six months of the passage of the said Railroad Company to remove from said island and from the Mississippi River all piers, abutments, embankments, erections, structures, or tracks connected in any way with the old bridge or tracks of said Railroad Company over or across said island or other branch of said river, and in case of refusal of said Railroad Company to comply with such notice, for the period of six months, then it shall be the duty of the Attorney-General of the United States to commence, or cause to be commenced, such legal proceedings against said Railroad Company as may be necessary to protect the rights of the United States in their behalf. For sewers, building new roads, care and preservation of water power, planting and care and preservation of permanent buildings and bridges, building fences and grading grounds, and repairs and extension of the railroad, $15,000; for new machinery and shop-fixtures for shops, $10,000; for continuation of building for Custom-House and Sub-Treasury at Chicago, Ill., $750,000, provided that the limitation upon the said building heretofore fixed by law is hereby extended to $4,000,000, exclusive of the site, but the same shall in no event, when fully completed, exceed that sum, and the Architect of the Treasury is required to modify the specifications and plans of said building, if necessary, to comply with this provision, and see that the cost of the same shall not exceed this limitation; for continuation of the building for Custom-House and Post-Office at Port Huron, Mich., $25,000.

LOUISIANA.

PINCHBACK'S PROSPECTS.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 15.—The prospects of Pinchback's admission are now good. Contrary to general expectation, he seems likely to obtain some Democratic votes. He to-night claims three majority. The Morton resolution has been somewhat modified, and the argument in support of his claim is now substantially conducted on the basis of the following paragraph from the Pinchback memorial:

It appears to your memorialist that the action of the President was designed to give, and is in the absence of revision by Congress did give, not a de facto, but a de jure character to the State Government of Louisiana, as evidenced not only by the language used in the dispatch of the Attorney-General, but in the fact that not only by the Executive but by the Legislature the election of your memorialist is declared to be lawful. Your memorialist can conceive a condition of things in which a party holding executive office and exercising executive functions, might be legitimately sustained pending an inquiry into the lawfulness of the title so to be a de facto office, but he is at a loss to conceive the propriety of applying the phrase de facto to a legislative body, which, representing the popular sovereignty, must be de jure or nothing. A de facto voter and de facto Legislature are equally appropriate and intelligible phrases. Your memorialist respectfully submits that a Legislature, whether called de facto or de jure, that is so far lawful as to be qualified to p

mediately and get the goods now in bond out of the warehouses.

THE SUNDRY CIVIL SERVICE BILL.

The House Committee on Appropriations to-day completed the Sundry Civil Appropriations bill. The principal new items are $1,060,000 for the Government's share of expenses of the District of Columbia; $15,000 for the purchase of Mrs. Ransom's portrait of Gen. Thomas, and $25,000 for the purchase of Carpenter's painting of the Signing of the Emancipation Proclamation.

THE STEAMBOAT BILL.

as reported back to the Senate to-day, is changed by the Committee on Commerce in the following particulars: It is amended so as to prohibit the carrying of explosive and dangerous materials on any and all passenger steamers, except ferry-boats, whether or not there are other means of conveyance on the same route. Life-preservers must be capable of sustaining twenty-four pounds each instead of only eighteen pounds. A clause is inserted requiring at least one locked-up safety-valve on every vessel. The sections of the bill requiring a hydrostatic test of boilers, and regulating the manufacture, stamping, and inspection of hulls and boilers are all stricken out, so as to leave the present law in force. The Committee also strike out the provisions relating to the licensing and employment of masters and other subordinate officers, the new directions as to the navigation of vessels meeting or passing each other, the inspection and licensing of vessels and "liability clause" of the House bill, leaving the present law unchanged on all the subjects. The pilotage section is modified so as to provide that vessels trading between district and district, or engaged in the fisheries, shall not be compelled to receive or pay pilots. The new definitions of various classes of vessels are also omitted. A proviso is added that one-half of all the penalties not specifically otherwise provided for shall be paid to the respective informers.

APPOINTMENT.

The President has nominated George C. Stevens to be Collector of Customs for the district of Milwaukee, Wis.

(The regular record of Congressional proceedings will be found on the Sixth Page.)

TELEGRAPHIC BREVITIES.

The United States ship Portsmouth arrived at Honolulu Jan. 31.

The Germans of Bloomington are about to build a $40,000 hall for the use of one common society, in which shall be united all the lesser ones now in existence.

At least 1,500 people assembled at the First M. E. Church of Meadville, Pa., on Sunday afternoon, to witness or take part in a religious railroad meeting, which was conducted by railroad men of different classes from Cleveland, Erie, and other places, representing the Young Men's Christian Association. So much interest was manifested by the railroad men of that city that a large room will be fitted up in the Atlantic & Great Western Railroad shops at once, in which to conduct religious exercises.

At a meeting of the Merchants' Exchange Club of Council Bluffs, held last evening, the subject of a wagon-bridge across the Missouri River was warmly discussed, and a committee, consisting of J. W. More, J. T. Stewart, E. L. Shugart, B. F. Montgomery, John Dohany, W. T. Sapp, William Greuesey, S. Farnsworth, and R. J. Corry, was appointed to confer in the matter with a similar Committee from Omaha.

The Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Company announce through their Agent, Mr. H. N. Marsh, of Joliet, that they will transport coal for the poor of Joliet free of charge from any point on their line. Mr. J. A. Henry, a wealthy and enterprising citizen of Joliet, announces to the Union Relief Association that he will donate to the poor five car-loads of coal at his mines on the Chicago & Alton Railroad, and more if necessary, if that Company will be as generous as the Rock Island.

The receipt of the *Times* hoax at Galesburg caused much excitement and discussion there. TRIBUNE subscribers denounced it as a *Herald* institution at once. The arrival of THE TRIBUNE yesterday was awaited with feverish anxiety. The refined, educated majority there denounce the great libeler without stint. There are apologists for the cruel, heartless fraud, and no limit to the denunciations of the inhuman outrage perpetrated on unsuspecting people. The result is a reaction in favor of THE TRIBUNE, a paper not forced to resort to subterfuge for sensation.

ANTI-SECRET-SOCIETY MEN.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

MANSFIELD, O., Feb. 15.—Several delegates have arrived to take part in the Anti-Secret-Society Convention called to meet here on the 17th inst. by a large number of persons of note and influence throughout the country. The sessions may continue several days, and a crusade inaugurated against secret societies. The Masonic order have tendered the managers the use of their lodge-room, but the offer has not yet been accepted.

THE TRIGGER.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

LINCOLN, Ill., Feb. 15.—The sports of this and Mason County had a grand shooting-match here several days last week, at pigeons and snow-birds, making some very good records, headed by Capt. A. H. Bogardus. Four of the best shots of this county go over to Mason County next week to shoot against four of the best shots of that county, for $100 a side.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP NEWS.

LONDON, Feb. 15.—The steamship Leipzig, which went aground yesterday off Start Point, has got off, and will return to Southamptoe. The damage sustained by the steamer is slight. She is expected to sail for Baltimore in a day or two.

QUEENSTOWN, Feb. 15.—The steamship Samaria, from Boston, has arrived.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Arrived, steamship Adriatic, from Liverpool.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The Rev. Father Byrne, the President of the Roman Catholic Total Abstinence Union of America, has written a letter advising that the organization should not take part in the parades on St. Patrick's Day, partly on the ground of excessive expense, and partly for the reason that parades detract from the religious associations of the day.

The Pope on Infallibility.

Recently, the Pope delivered an address to the "Academy of the Catholic Religion," the text of which has been republished by the *Journal*, of Florence. In the course of it, the Holy Father made the following remarks on the question of infallibility: "Among the different subjects which you will have to treat there is one which seems to me of special importance, and that is to bring to nothing the efforts that are being made to falsify the idea of Pontifical infallibility. Of all these efforts that which seems the fullest of malice consists in attributing to the infallibility of the Pope the right of deposing sovereigns and of absolving subjects from their allegiance. Without doubt, this right has sometimes been exercised by the Popes in their supreme struggles, but is never had anything in common with their infallibility, and its source was not in infallibility, but in the pontifical authority. Moreover, the exercise of the right in the ages of faith, when men recognized in the Pope, what he really is, the supreme judge of Christendom, and acknowledged the advantages of his tribunal for the solution of great questions arising between people and their sovereigns—the exercise of that right spread itself, seconded as it ought to have been by public law and the general agreement of the nationalities, to the gravest interests of the States and their chiefs. The conditions of the present day are greatly changed, and only malice can confound two things so different; infallibility in regard to revealed principles, and the right which the Popes exercised in virtue of their authority when then the welfare of society demanded it. Our enemies know this as well as we, and it is easy to see why they call up this confusion of ideas and put forward hypotheses in which nobody believes. They invent these pretexts in order to afflict us and to excite Princes against the church. There are some who grieve I should explain and render still more clear the definition of the Council. I will not do it. It is clear enough in itself, and has no need of further explanations or commentaries."

A Faithless Interpreter.

A troupe of Japanese actors and actresses is now performing at one of the Parisian theatres. Okuma, a young girl of 17, one of the principal actresses, is very pretty, and has already found many admirers among the young men of Paris. They are obliged, however, to avail themselves of the services of an interpreter in order to express their regard for the fair Japanese, and thus are sometimes deceived, the interpreter translating their letters to suit himself. A note sent by an ardent admirer, the other day, was rendered thus by the faithless interpreter: "Young Stranger—I know not whether all thy countrywomen resemble thee, but I trust not, for all who tell thee thou art beautiful boldly utter falsehood. The ugliest French woman is much lovelier than thou art."

STATE AFFAIRS.

A Somewhat Detailed History of Mr. Speaker Haines' Obstreperousness.

No Session of the Illinois Senate Yesterday —A Dull Day in the House.

Other Legislatures.

ILLINOIS.

HAINES.

HOW HE OBSTRUCTS LEGISLATION.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Feb. 15.—It is hardly worth while at this juncture to speculate as to the prospects of the passage of any important measures this session. The first business to be disposed of is—Haines; and till he be disposed of little, if anything, can be done. The matter of Haines is that he has no notion of doing anything else than keep up a muss. From what I have seen of him I doubt whether in his present position he would be capable of aught else—whether indeed he can be other than a marplot. But in any event, his highest ambition is to figure as the chief performer in a political circus-show. He is possessed of extraordinary finesse and amazing strategic talent of the sort that invariably trips the strategist. With wondrous industry he toils and plots, laying his far-reaching plans,—which extend from nothing to nothing, and can have no possible result save to renew the tempest in the tea-pot. The Democrats have well-nigh exhausted themselves in attempting to suppress Haines. The Independents, ditto. They thought they had done so, when, after all the severe discipline administered by them, he was brought to repress his extraordinary persistent captiousness about points of order of no point. The sessions of the earlier part of last week gave hopeful promise that Haines at last was suppressed. But he is breaking out again with his Committee-of-the-Whole project and his extraordinary performance in attempting to dictate the removal of committee clerks satisfactory to their committees, in order to make places for his corps of busted-up and frayed-out ink-slingers—the sorriest lot ever beheld hanging on the outer fringe of journalism. The prospects are that he will go on breaking out in fresh spots until the House, thoroughly demoralized, virtually commits *felo de se*. Then none would go home in such high glee as Haines himself, for in his estimation evidently, the bigger the row, the better his prospects of coming out ahead in the next gubernatorial canvass. Possibly, however, the hard-headed Democrats who have been driven to the verge of endurance by Haines, may, at last, in sheer desperation, clap an extinguisher of some sort upon him. When they do, speculations as to what this General Assembly will do may be considered in order.

HAINES' GREAT SPEECH INCUBATING.

That great speech is to be the great effort of Haines' life; for it is to be printed in the Chicago *Times*. At least that is what Haines counts on. For that he champions the *Times'* scephalous amendment. For that he seeks to draw inspiration from the astonishing editorials of that sheet on its amendment. He counts on more—on the editorial indorsement of the *Times*, for he hasn't the slightest conception of what an awful calamity to him, or to anybody else, must needs be the *Times'* indorsement. And that's all there is at the bottom of the scephalous idiocy as here manifest. Nobody knows exactly what the scephalous amendment means; nobody in particular seems to care to know, but Haines wants to get the House into Committee of the Whole upon it, in order to get off his great speech. That's enough for the rank and file of the Opposition. Haines is their Speaker, and, with that old instinct of fealty to a leader which belonged to the ancient Democracy, they propose to stand by Haines and give him a chance to get off his speech. They will find, perhaps, among the flatulent statesmen who from the opening of the session have been pining for opportunity to repeat their musty stump-speeches on States Rights and sich, which haven't been aired for years.

But at last it is doubtful whether the House will agree to go into Committee of the Whole. The hard-headed monosyllabic Democratic and Independent, do not hesitate to pronounce the whole project d—d nonsense. They are beginning to want to get through with business and go home, and, together with the Republicans, are opposed to the programme for wind-work even in night session, as is proposed. Possibly, therefore, Haines will not be delivered of his great speech, and the *Times'* amendment may be left in limbo,—to be taken up only in Committee of the Whole, with no prospect of the House going into Committee of the Whole.

It may occur to THE TRIBUNE readers who have the patience to read them much, if any such there be, that this is making a deal of fuss over Haines. The fact is, that there isn't very much of him, all told. But he has a wondrous fussy talent; and so well developed is it that he has succeeded in keeping up picayune fusses about picayune matters here that have raged with all the fury of any tempest in a tea-pot till half the session is gone; and, when one attempts to describe the situation, it is impossible to do so without beginning and ending with Haines, since all the Little Padlingtonian politics here frothing and splattering centres round him. Nobody is so tired of him as the correspondents themselves, for this session is exclusively Haines' funeral. the which it is their sad fate to have to report. The daily petition of us all is to be delivered from writing Haines.

THE HAINES BUREAU OF CORRESPONDENCE.

In consequence of the exposure by THE TRIBUNE and other Republican Journals of his quartering his corps of correspondents upon the House as committee clerks, Haines has been compelled to abandon that project, so far as it was incomplete. The places of nine clerks stricken off the pay-roll by him, after he had himself certified the roll, to make places for his correspondents, will not be filled. After the exposure he had not the audacity to fill the vacancies with his scribblers, and, instead, will now claim the credit of the retrenchment effected by the reduction of the number of clerks.

HOUSE.

PUBLIC PRINTING.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

SPRINGFIELD, Feb. 15.—The House met this morning without a quorum and improved the occasion by letting the Clerk finish up the second readings of bills. That done, a resolution was introduced calling for information as to the expense of printing the election registry-books. On motion to refer to the Committee on Printing the ayes and noes were demanded, and it was discovered that the House lacked one of a quorum, but enough members came in before the result was declared to give exactly a quorum, and business was proceeded with.

PROTECTION AGAINST QUACKS.

The Committee on Miscellaneous Subjects reported back Rickert's bill to regulate the practice of medicine. This is the bill which prohibits the practice of medicine in this State by any person who shall not have attended at least two courses of lectures at some medical college in the United States or some foreign country; and, before it shall be lawful for any person to practice as a doctor of medicine, he shall file with the County Clerk a copy of his diploma. The bill is prospective in its operation, and does not apply to doctors in practice at the time of its passage.

SHUTTING UP PUBLIC PASSAGES.

A bill was introduced providing that no City Council, whether of a city incorporated under the general law or by special act, shall have power to vacate a street or alley, or any part thereof, except by a vote of three-fourths of the whole number of Aldermen; *"provided*, that when a majority of the legal voters voting at the last corporation election" shall petition such vacation, it may be done by a majority vote of the Aldermen, and the Board of Aldermen may then dispose of the street vacated, by sale or otherwise, in accordance with the prayer of the petition.

AGAINST "CREDIT-MOBILIERS."

James, of Lake, introduced a bill declaring all property of corporations (except municipalities) a trust-fund in the hands of the Directors, for the payment of the corporate debts. The object is to prevent sales, leases, etc., of the corporate property by the Directors to themselves, to the prejudice of creditors, and for this purpose to subject them to control by the courts as Trustees.

SENATORIAL APPORTIONMENT.

A resolution was offered and laid on the table, proposing an amendment to the Constitution, so redistricting the State as to make thirty-three, instead of (as at present) fifty-one Senatorial districts.

RESOLUTION OF INQUIRY.

A resolution was adopted instructing the Committee on Printing to inquire and report why the publication of the reports of the State charitable institutions has been delayed. This is understood to be preparatory to prolonged investigations of everything under Republican management.

THE OHIO & MICHIGAN CANAL.

In response to a resolution of inquiry, the Canal Commissioners transmitted a report showing that the total amount paid officers and employes last year was $19,052, being $12,249 less than paid for the same service by the Trustees. Corn transported during 1874, 3,668,698 bushels; lumber, 52,000,000 feet; toll collected, $144,831.

LINCOLN PARK.

Stickney introduced a bill to provide for the issue of Lincoln Park bonds, with interest payable semi-annually, to take the place of those already issued with interest payable annually. In support of the bill, the difficulty of placing the present bonds is urged.

The Senate was not in session.

COMMONWEALTH MATTERS.

REVISION OF THE TAX LAWS IMPERATIVE.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Feb. 15.—There is a growing feeling among members of the hopelessness in the present disorganized condition of the House of attempting to pass the proposed revision of the General Revenue law. Further, it is felt that there is not now time left in which to properly frame so important a measure, the outline of which is not as yet determined. In consequence, the project for the appointment of a Special Commission to thoroughly consider the subject and report to the next General Assembly a new Revenue bill, complete in all its details, is canvassed favorably, and (if anything definite be done with regard to the proposed revision) will probably carry both Houses. In support of this project it is urged that the first question to be determined is whether the proposed system of corporation and license taxes (and the exemption of our real estate from levy for State purposes) is constitutional, and it is claimed that until that be clearly settled no action should be taken with view to the adoption of the new system, and this is one of the questions which it is the design to refer to the Commission should it be established.

THE STATE BRAVES.

A bill for the enrollment and organization of a State Guard, drawn by Congdon, of Cook, and James, of Lake, will shortly be reported by the Militia Committee as a substitute for the bill sent here by Col. Frank Sherman and others. It will provide for arming and uniforming the State Guard. As the State has a considerable lot of arms on hand, and is in receipt of some $10,000 worth annually from the General Government, it is claimed the expenditure in that regard will be small. When called out, the privates are to be paid $1 per day, and the officers will be left to find their compensation in glory.

THE STATE HAIR.

Nearly or quite all of the members of the State Board of Agriculture are here to-night. To-morrow the Board will meet in special session to decide upon the location for the State Fair for the next two years—1875-76. The contest seems to be between this city and Jacksonville, though other competitors may put in an appearance to-morrow. This city will make a strong effort to secure it, the necessary funds having been raised for the purpose, and a word now and then from members of the Board to-night would seem to indicate that, all things being equal, Springfield will get it. The matter will doubtless be decided to-morrow.

CONTESTED-ELECTION CASE.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

JOLIET, Ill., Feb. 15.—The Senate Sub-Committee on the contested-election case of Sehring and Marshall for the Senatorship of the Fifteenth District adjourned on Saturday and returned to Springfield. The examination of witnesses will be conducted by A. F. Knox, Esq., Notary and Master in Chancery. Mr. Knox has examined but few witnesses. It is found that a large number—the greater proportion, in fact—of the illegal votes as claimed were cast for the contestant, Fred Sehring.

OTHER LEGISLATURES.

INDIANA.

REGULAR PROCEEDINGS.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Feb. 15.—The Senate indefinitely postponed the Beardsley bill to give railroad employers the benefit of the Indiana Exemption laws despite contrary laws of other States.

Much of the time of the session was passed on bills on a second reading.

Bills passed the House exempting real and personal property of joint-stock agricultural companies; compelling a vote of the people on any appropriation by County Commissioners over one-quarter of 1 per cent; appropriating $22,168 to pay the debt of the Normal School of Terre Haute, and reducing the price of Supreme Court reports to $3.

A resolution asking Congress to equalize soldiers' bounties passed unanimously.

RAILROADS.

A meeting of the Railway Committees of both Houses, in conjunction with the representatives of railway lines, held at Hotel Bates to-night and thrown open to members of the Legislature, was largely attended. Only two or three roads in the State were not represented. The questions discussed were the propriety of regulating rates for freight and passengers, and for fencing roads, the side of the railroad being presented at length by President Ingalls, of the Cincinnati Road, sided Supt. Woodward of the St. Louis, and Gen. George B. Wright, of the Bloomington & Western. The abuses of shippers were presented by Col. A. D. Streight, a prominent merchant of this city, and Col. William Foster, of Newton County. The interview was protracted to a late hour. The subject of railroad regulation was made the special order for Wednesday in the House.

THE MICHIGAN CITY PRISON.

More complaints are made against the management of the Northern Prison. It is charged that undue punishments are inflicted—men nearly killed by ducking and catted almost to death. Legislative inquiry will probably be ordered at once.

MINNESOTA.

THE SENATORIAL CONTEST.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

ST. PAUL, Feb. 15.—Three ballots were taken for Senator to-day, in which Lochren had 63 votes; Cole, 34 to 38; Washburn, 29 to 32; and 14 to 21 votes were scattered among eleven candidates, the highest being 8 for Gen. L. A. Hubbard. Unless Washburn is withdrawn, the division of Republicans between Cole and Washburn will simply continue the Ramsey-Davis split. His supporters say he will remain in the field, which defeats the Democratic hopes of electing Lochren by the aid of the Hennepin County Representatives and their influence. Prominent Representatives, representing all factions, acknowledge to-night that there is no present hope of their uniting on any one candidate.

REGULAR BUSINESS.

In the Senate, bills were introduced requiring railroad companies to fence their roads in Freeborn County; providing for a lien upon crops as security for loans of seed; and appropriating $50,000 towards the completion of the Insane Asylum at St. Peter.

In the House, the bill restoring the death-penalty was amended, so that the jury may prescribe imprisonment. Otherwise the sentence to death follows a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree. The present law allows the jury to prescribe death, otherwise a sentence of imprisonment follows.

Bills were introduced limiting homestead exemption from seizure for debt to the value of $3,000; declaring forfeiture by the St. Paul & Pacific Company of lands, franchises, etc., of the St. Vincent and Brainerd extension lines, the State to hold the same for the completion of the roads by other companies.

In the Senate a memorial against the extension of Wheeler & Wilson patents was passed.

KANSAS.

ROUTINE WORK.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

TOPEKA, Kan., Feb. 15.—The Senate spent some time to-day discussing the bill authorizing County Commissioners to provide necessaries for destitute persons by selling scrip, but came to no conclusion in the matter.

A bill reducing Sheriffs' fees about 25 per cent was passed.

A bill to establish salaries of State officers and members of the Legislature was discussed during most of the afternoon in Committee of the Whole, and will come up again to-morrow.

The House passed the bill to appropriate $35,000 to destitute counties. This is the Senate bill, and, as passed by that body, makes the appropriation a six years' loan to the counties. The House amended it by making it a direct loan. The fate of the amendment in the Senate is doubtful, with the chances against its adoption.

The Governor submitted to the Senate to-day a long communication from the State Land-Agent concerning the sales of lands granted to the State by the General Government for internal improvement purposes. The Agent states that he has reason to believe that a considerable sum of money is due the State from former incumbents of his office on account of sales of these lands.

A caucus of Republican members of the Legislature has been called, ostensibly to consider the matter of general legislation, but really to decide upon a policy concerning investigations of ex-State officers.

WISCONSIN.

A DULL DAY.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

MADISON, Wis., Feb. 15.—Both Houses had a brief session to-night.

In the Assembly, a communication was received from Judge Small, asking for a bill of particulars in the impeachment case brought by N. S. Murphy, of the *Sentinel*; also, a communication from the latter gentleman asking that counsel be employed.

Mr. Pinney objected to such employment. Mr. Lees moved that a special committee be appointed to consider the communications, which was carried, and Messrs. Lees, Comstock, Farnsworth, Pinney, and Kershaw were appointed such committee.

The Assembly concurred in a memorial to Congress for the extension of time for the construction of the road from St. Croix to Bayfield.

In the Senate the nomination of Dr. O. Wright as State Geologist was confirmed by a vote of 23 to 1.

A bill passed to encourage the building of a narrow-gauge railroad, and appropriating $80,000 for the erection at the University of a new building for scientific purposes.

MICHIGAN.

NO BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

LANSING, Mich., Feb. 15.—The House met without a quorum present, and adjourned till Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock.

The Senate adjourned till the same hour after transacting business of no particular consequence.

Senator Grequel introduced bills to amend the Police act of Detroit, and to amend Sec. 2 of the act concerning the stenographer of the Recorder's Court in Detroit. It limits him to his salary exclusively.

NEBRASKA.

GOOD FOR PHONOGRAPHERS.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

OMAHA, Neb., Feb. 15.—The Legislature of Nebraska has passed a law authorizing the appointment of short-hand reporters in District Courts, pay to be $5 per day and 10 cents per folio for writing out testimony.

WEST VIRGINIA.

VOTE FOR UNITED STATES SENATOR.

HUNTINGTON, W. Va., Feb. 15.—The joint ballot in the Legislature for a United States Senator to-day stood: Gen. Jackson, 26; Walker, 23; Price, 17; the balance scattering.

A MARDI-GRAS INCIDENT.

Skinner Plays "Big Injun" and Loses His Scalp.

From the Louisville Courier-Journal.

The Mardi-gras procession on Tuesday was witnessed by large crowds, and the ludicrous impersonations of character will live long in the memories of the masses, who laughed until their sides ached. Among the motley host who perambulated the streets in the procession was a long, cadaverous-looking fellow, representing a Comanche Indian. His face was painted red, his suit was well made up. Upon his ponderous feet were a pair of new moccasins, and hanging from the beaded girt that encircled his body were half a dozen "boss pistols" and as many scalps. Inside this belt was a cheap knife and a scythe-blade. His long black hair was banded with a brass hoop, from which stuck about a dozen of turkey and geese feathers, and in his right hand he held with an iron grasp a tomahawk, red with some victim's blood. Any one who had read or heard of the famous Indian warrior, Bloody Nose, would have said he had arisen from the dead and joined their procession. But it was not the blood-thirsty rover of the forest. It was Skinner who personated him, and he did it to perfection. His appearance was a terror to women and children, while his war-whoop, and the revolutions of that bloody tomahawk were certain death to "de culled population." Everybody saw the wild Indian, but nobody knew it was Skinner.

While the procession moved through the various streets, Skinner would get dry, and break ranks by dodging into bar-rooms and taking in his usual dose of "fire-water." By the time Skinner had "war-whooped" ten or fifteen blocks, and hid about half a keg of "fire-water" about his person, he was in "fine trim" to play Comanche, and began to think he was "Bloody Nose" sure enough, for he tried to "scalp" no less than a dozen darkies that fell into his hands.

The procession passed within a square or two of Skinner's house. Skinner has a wife, and she is the mother of five little male and four female Skinners. Skinner's wife does her own work; in fact, she's "boss" of Skinner's house, and, instead of her rushing off with a string of little Skinners after her to see the procession, she kept the little ones at home, and stayed in the kitchen attending to cleaning the pots, kettles, and pans after dinner.

A new idea struck Skinner. He would go home and scare Mrs. Skinner and all the little Skinners. He cut loose from the procession, took another dose of "fire-water," and by the time he reached his front gate, he was the most reckless-looking Comanche the world ever beheld. Pissing up new courage he rushed into the front room where the little Skinners were "playing circus." His appearance was accompanied by wild yells and fancy dancing, while he made that tomahawk fly around the room over the children's heads as if he meant business, the little Skinners shouting, "O! Mr. Injin, don't!" "mother!" "murder!" "fire!" and there were such screams as would have made any "sure enough" Indian run.

Skinner was just in the middle of his fun, when the screams of the children and the war-whoops of the Comanche brought Mrs. Skinner to the scene, armed with an iron skillet. She slipped up behind the "playful Indian," drew a bead on his nose, and landed that skillet with the force of a sledge-hammer and the rapidity of lightning against it. The hand let go the tomahawk, the feathers flew, the belt bursted, and the scalps, pistols, and knives fell to the floor. There was a flesh-and-blood spot in the middle of his face where that nose was a moment before the skillet mashed it. It now looked like a bursted tomato spread all over his face. There was a groan, a fall, a somersault or two, and all was quiet. That Comanche had found the "happy hunting grounds."

Instead of Mrs. Skinner sending for the doctor and bathing his face, she looked down into his mutilated face, and, shaking the skillet over him with her right hand, exclaimed: "I'll warwhoop you. You thought you was some somebody, you darned old fool; but I know'd you soon as I seed your feet, and smelt your breath."

P. S.—Skinner has an Indian masquerade suit for sale cheap. He won't be able to be out until he gets done breathing through his ears. The doctor says his nose may grow out again by the time the next Mardi Gras takes place. We advise Skinner to get a brass nose and "go West."

A Horrible Affair.

From a Paris Letter.

One of the strangest and most horrible of sensational incidents took place the other day at Puteaux. A party of children who were playing in the environs discovered floating in the air and partly entangled amid the branches of a tree, a white parcel, usborne by means of some twenty or thirty little red toy-balloons, which were attached to it. The attention of the police being called to this singular object, it was brought down and the package opened, which proved to contain the corpse of a new-born infant. Investigations into the matter brought to light the following facts. The child was that of a poor toy-maker and his wife; just after the confinement of the latter the husband had died suddenly, and all the household goods and chattels had been seized for rent. The unhappy woman was driven mad by this accumulation of misfortunes; she killed her infant, and then went out and threw herself into the river, leaving behind her a written paper, in which she declared her intention of committing suicide, and said that she "had gotten her baby all ready to go up to heaven." A sadder tale with a stranger termination it would be hard to find. The toy-balloons evidently had formed part of the dead husband's stock in trade.

FOREIGN.

The New King of Spain Recognized by Great Britain.

Ninety Persons Killed in a Chinese Prison Mutiny.

MacMahon Unfortunate in His Cabinet Selections.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE NEW SPANISH GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZED.

LONDON, Feb. 15.—In the House of Commons to-day Bourke, Under Secretary for the Foreign Department, in reply to the inquiry, stated that instructions would be sent to-night to Layard, the British Minister at Madrid, to recognize Alphonso as King of Spain.

Lopez, acting by advice of Disraeli, apologized for and withdrew the offensive expression he had used in regard to the Home-Rulers.

FRANCE.

THE PENDING CRISIS.

PARIS, Feb. 15.—No one to whom President MacMahon has applied to form a Cabinet is willing to undertake the task until the Constitutional laws are decided upon.

THE WIMPFFEN LIBEL CASE.

PARIS, Feb. 15.—The libel case of Gen. Wimpffen, against M. De Cassagnac, has resulted in a verdict for defendant.

GREAT BRITAIN.

DON'T BELIEVE IN MOODY.

DUBLIN, Feb. 15.—Archbishop Cullen, in a pastoral letter, condemns the mission of the revival preachers, Moody and Sankey (of Chicago), who, he says, promise salvation by foolish sensationalism, without requiring repentance.

CHINA.

JAIL REVOLT.

LONDON, Feb. 15.—A telegram from Singapore reports that the revolt of Chinese prisoners in jail there was not suppressed before sixty-seven persons were killed and injured, including sixteen wardens.

GERMANY.

KARL BLIND ASSAULTED.

LONDON, Feb. 15.—Karl Blind, the Liberal German politician, has been seriously injured by a German fanatic, who assaulted him.

ENGLISH POLITICS.

The Liberal Party—Speeches by the Marquis of Hartington and John Bright.

At a meeting of Liberals at Lewes, Sussex, Jan. 27, the Marquis of Hartington made a speech, in the course of which he said: "He would dwell for a few minutes on the present and future position of the Liberal party. They had been reminded several times that evening that they were not at the height of their fortunes. They had lost their leader; they were in a minority of the House of Commons; and, what was more than all, there were pressing subjects, and some of them most important, on which they were not agreed among themselves. Under such circumstances as these, some would probably say, 'What was the use of the Liberals? What was the meaning of the Liberal party? What was the meaning of the attempt at reorganization of that party? What was the meaning of the organization of Liberal associations? Why were they trying to get up a new Liberal club, and why fill up columns of the press as to who is to be the leader of the Liberal party?' Well, he thought an answer might be given to the question—that there might be still a Liberal party, and still work for the Liberal party to do. He believed in the first place, that it was desirable if possible to keep the Liberal party together, that it might discharge the constitutional duties of Her Majesty's opposition. He had no particular fault to find with the present Government, but he did not believe that any Government or any administration was so perfectly wise and good that it was not all the better for having its administration watched and its measures criticised by a vigilant opposition. They had heard something that night about the foreign policy of the present Government, and surely at the present moment the state of Europe was not such that the House of Commons could be absolutely free from the duty of watching closely the foreign policy of the Government. Certainly the foreign policy of Lord Derby very much resembled the foreign policy of Earl Granville, and on that account he did not think that they would have much to say; but he had heard that the foreign policy of the late Government was not 'sufficiently spirited,' and some of them thought there would have been a change. They thought, perhaps, they were going to have a change when Mr. Disraeli came into House and heard words from Mr. Disraeli which looked very much like lecturing Prince Bismarck, but they afterwards found that that was not inaugurating a 'spirited foreign policy,' for they were assured that the orator had been misunderstood, and that he was not thinking about it at all. In fact so deep was Mr. Disraeli's respect for Prince Bismarck that he seemed inclined to take him as his counsellor and his guide in foreign politics. Contrary to the usual practice, at the invitation of Prince Bismarck the present Government recognized the Government of Spain—certainly at a moment when the people of Spain had not recognized it themselves, and were even in arms against it; they had not originated it at the instance of Prince Bismarck. And certainly that recognition has not done much, for, shortly after, another Government was formed. Coming to the question of the disunion of the Liberal party, he said they must look the question fairly in the face. He was willing to admit that they were not a united and well-drilled party in the sense in which a party manager or a party would like to see them. He admitted that, being the friends of progress, there were some of them in favor of one reform and some in favor of another; and some in favor of one rate of progress and others in favor of a lower rate of progress; but it seemed to him that it would be unreasonable, especially in the freedom of opposition, that the friends of progress and reform should be debarred from advocating that from which seemed to them best. At a time when they were in opposition, they must make compromises, as compromises had been made before; but at the same time it would be unreasonable if they did not allow any section of the party, or any individual of the party, to take this opportunity of bringing before the country, and convince the country, if he could, of the merits of that particular reform he advocated; and whether he did it in the press, or in public meetings, or whether he took action in Parliament, for his own part he would not complain; but if he might be allowed to give one word of advice and caution to the Liberal party, it was that they should bear in mind what he believed to be one of the great principles, if not the greatest principle of the Liberal policy, viz.: That they should trust fully and entirely in the people, in the hope and taunt that true principles would ultimately prevail with the people. [Loud cheers.] Let the people govern themselves. Let them take what means they could to persuade and convince the people; but at the same time he believed that it was better that the people should be governed even upon false principles—which they did not admit—if they bore in mind that principle. If they bore that in mind they would have as much liberty in the party as any one could desire, and yet they might not be altogether a dismited party. Let him take the instance of Mr. Bright. He did not agree with Mr. Bright's speech; he did not think that Mr. Bright attached nearly sufficient weight to the affections which the Church of England held upon the feelings of the people of this country. He did not think he attached nearly sufficient weight to the good which that Church did, and he thought that Mr. Bright attached too much weight to the imperfections and faults that were to be found in any such human institution. At the same time, he knew that Mr. Bright conscientiously and firmly held those opinions which he advocated, and that he would do all in his power to gain the approval of this country to the opinion which he held with regard to religious establishments. But did Mr. Bright ask his friends to take the disestablishment of the Church a test question? Did he ask the Liberals to refuse their confidence from every one who would not vote for disestablishment? Nothing of the kind. Mr. Bright intended to agitate for disestablishment, as he and Mr. Cobden agitated for the principles of free trade,—namely, by persuading people of the justice of those principles. Mr. Bright was right then; if he was right now, he (Lord Hartington), for his own part, believed Mr. Bright would succeed; but if he was wrong, as he believed he was wrong now, he believed he would not succeed. He did not think they had reached finality in reform; but it was clear to every one that at this moment the people of this country were not prepared for great and extensive organic changes. He believed that the time would come when further changes would have to be made. It was better they should be made by the Liberal party than by the Conservative party. He did not imagine that Conservatives themselves were of opinion that the Constitution of this country was improved or that faith in public men strengthened when the Catholic Emancipation bill was carried by Tory statesmen, when Free Trade was carried by a Protectionist statesman, or even lately, when a large extention of the franchise was made by the men who had just resisted any extension at all. He believed that liberal reforms ought to be made by Liberal statesmen, and for that reason he implored members of the Liberal party not to lose their confidence in Liberal principles, but to work, and wait, if necessary, in order to reorganize and reconstitute the great Liberal party to which they were so much attached."

On the 29th of January, Mr. Bright spoke before the Birmingham Liberal Association. He gave the causes of the recent Liberal defeat, and then went on to deprecate the action of those who would, if necessary, divide constituencies unless what was called a working-class candidate could be returned. If, he said, "we are to have a Parliament composed of classes, one of workingmen representatives and one not of representatives of the workingmen, it appears to me it would be one of the greatest calamities that could happen to our representation." If they could find a man—let him be a first-class, second-class, or a third-class passenger—with intelligence and honesty, and firmness, and that kind of capacity which they could understand for parliamentary duty, then lay hold of him at once and make him a member of Parliament. But this new principle he believed to be a principle contrary to all the true interests of the country, and to all the wise and best principles of the best men in it. Mr. Bright referred to the work done by Lord Russell, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Joseph Hume, Mr. Charles Villiers, Mr. Cobden, Mr. Ricardo, and Mr. Milner Gibson, for the benefit of the working classes, and said that he himself gave his humble services in assisting these men. According to this doctrine which is now preached, although he had done some work in his time, he was not by any means to be called a workingman. What they wanted throughout the country among the Liberal party was intelligent union among all classes of the people. Mr. Bright, toward the close of his address, referred as follows to his speech of the previous Monday:

"I came here on Monday depressed and burdened. The times are not exciting, nor are they favorable to clear indication to the mind of a speaker what are the topics he should speak upon or exactly how they should be treated. I myself was reluctantly driven, as the meeting approached, to a consideration of the great question which I discussed at some length on Monday evening. No one will believe, I hope, that I have been actuated in that course by any wish to disturb the unity of the Liberal party, or that I have wished to turn public indignation against the Established Church. I spoke as I felt in my heart. I spoke with regard of thousands of those who are doing religious work within the borders of the Church of England. I threw out what I thought would be some seed to scatter over the land, to give, as I said, my humble contribution to the discussion of a great question, which cannot be evaded—a discussion which I am not the first to enter upon or to promote, but which they are most actively promoting who have the greatest interest in letting it alone."

THE FRENCH ARMY.

Its Reorganization.

From the London Times.

"*Gallos quoque in bello floruisse audiimus*" was the scornful exclamation of Burke when the first defeats of 1792 revealed the military weakness of France, and laid bare the defects of her ill-trained armies. The political sage did not live to see the continent at the feet of Napoleon; but before his death, in 1797, he had beheld the legions of the Republic march in triumph over the Rhine and the Adige, and beat back the coalition of Europe. Though the disasters of France four years ago were almost unparalleled in the annals of war, we never believed that they formed what is termed another colossal lapse of the nation; and we felt assured that the energetic race which had overcome Agincourt, St. Quentin, Pavia, and the ascendency of the House of Austria, and the League, and the Fronde, and 1793, would ultimately regain its position. Still the suddenness of the French recovery has surprised us like other observers. No one could hardly have believed that a State which had suffered the awful reverses of Sedan and Metz, and had been torn asunder by the struggle of the Commune, could, within the space of so few years, have largely renewed its military strength, and have add ra

COMMON CARRIERS.

Railroads Cannot Shift a Responsibility on Employes.

The Supreme Court on Remittiturs.

Further Examination in the Salkey-Gerson Case.

The Judges Divide Up the Criminal Court Between Them.

Peter Hand Escapes with a Fine.

COMMON CARRIERS.

THE SUPREME COURT ON THEIR LIABILITY.

The case of the Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne & Chicago Railway Company vs. Chester Hazen, recently decided by the Supreme Court, contains some very interesting points relating to the liability of a railroad company. The suit was brought by Chester Hazen in the Superior Court to recover damages for a failure by the Company to carry some cheese and butter to New York within a reasonable time. It appeared from the evidence that, on the 10th of December, 1870, Hazen shipped to New York 35,000 pounds of cheese and a quantity of butter. The ordinary time to ship to New York was nine or ten days, but the freight in question was seventeen days on the road, and, by the delay, the cheese was badly frozen, the weather after the 23d of December having been very cold.

THE DELAY WAS CAUSED

at Leavitsburg, Ohio, by a strike of the brakemen on two divisions of the road for higher wages. The strike was not caused by any fault on the part of the Company, but the Court below refused to allow this evidence to go to the jury, and a verdict was accordingly given for Hazen for $1,100.55. The Company appealed, on the ground that the evidence was improperly excluded.

The Supreme Court held that the law was well settled that a common carrier was required to ship and deliver goods over its line within a reasonable time, and was liable for all damages resulting from a failure so to do. The employes of a Company in charge of trains were held out by the Company to be

COMPETENT TO DISCHARGE THEIR DUTIES.

So far as the public was concerned, the Railroad Company guaranteed their fidelity and good conduct in matters within the scope of their employments. Another well-settled rule was, that the Company was liable for the frauds and negligence of its employes in the course of their employment. Upon what principle, then, could the Company shield itself from liability to the public because its own agent or employee had failed to discharge a duty they owed the Company? Many of the accidents occurring on a passenger-train, for which the Company was liable, were caused directly by a failure of some employe to perform his duty, and the same claimed by the Railroad Company in the present case would, if carried out to its legitimate result,

RELIEVE IT FROM LIABILITY

in any case where an accident was caused by the fault of an employe to discharge his duty. Nor could it make any difference whether the strike was caused by the fault of the Company or of the brakemen, for in either case the relation was between the Company and its employes, with which the appellee had nothing to do. The question had been decided in a parallel case in New York, and the liability of the Railroad Company sustained. Both on principle and authority, the Company ought to be liable.

ANOTHER QUESTION

made by the Company was that the Court refused to admit evidence tending to prove that the delay was caused by the assaults of the brakemen on the trains after they were discharged, assisted by others who had previously been discharged by the Company. But the Company could not be allowed to shield itself from the unlawful acts of its employes simply for the reason that after the trains were stopped by the refusal of the laborers to perform their duty, the Company notified them that they were discharged. The unlawful acts done by the workmen after they were discharged were but a continuation of those done before. While, however, they and their employer would be personally liable to the Company for all unlawful acts, yet, so far as the public was concerned, their doings must be referred back to the original cause,—the difficulty between the Company and its servants. The assaults sought to be proved might have been caused by the Company, and it would be manifestly unjust to involve the appellee in an issue of such a character. It would be an issue foreign to the one really involved in the case, and one, too, which it would be difficult for appellee to meet. If the Railroad Company was damaged by the unlawful acts of its employes, and others acting in concert with them, it must look to those who did the wrong for redress. On the other hand, if Hazen had suffered a loss by a failure of the Company so to transport his goods without unreasonable delay, the Company ought to be held liable for the loss. Moran, English, and Wolf appeared for appellee.

REMITTITURS.

AN ODD DECISION.

A curious decision is that of the Supreme Court in the case of the Illinois Central Railroad Company vs. Carl Ebert, decided last month. The Supreme Court seem to have gone on the principle that two wrongs will make a right. Ebert brought suit in the Circuit Court of this county to recover damages to himself, and for the killing of his horses, caused by a collision with a train of cars which was backing up on a side-track. The day was cold and blustering when the accident happened, and Ebert, wrapped up as closely as possible, was slowly driving with a load of ice over one of the defendant's tracks near Buckingham's elevator, when the rear of a train of freight-cars ran into the team, killed the horses, and seriously injured him. No brakeman was on the rear of the train to give warning, and the evidence was conflicting as to whether a bell was rung. A verdict was given for $10,000, but plaintiff's counsel entered a remittitur as to $6,000 and judgment was given for $4,000. From this the Company appealed, claiming the finding was against the evidence, and was excessive.

The Supreme Court said the Company showed great negligence in failing to have a person on the moving train. No matter if it was cold and dangerous, it was the duty of the Company's employes to expose themselves when necessary. Had a vigilant man been on the top of the cars, the accident would probably have never happened. It having, therefore, been occasioned by the negligence of the Company, that Company should bear the consequences. But, $10,000 was a very large sum of money—a small fortune—more than many acquire in a lifetime. To give such a verdict to a man whose prospects in life did not extend beyond his wages as a day laborer, and who was not wholly disabled, showed that the jury were controlled by prejudice and passion. Ordinary damages only could have been given. The enormity of the finding so shocked the sense of justice of plaintiff's counsel that they at once remitted more than half. But the verdict having been the result of passion and prejudice in the first instance, it was none the less so after the remittitur, for the incentives to the finding abode in what remained as well as in the original judgment. The verdict was for $10,000. That verdict was the result of passion and prejudice, and if those incentives prompted the verdict they vitiated it, and it should have been set aside as totally wrong.

But a practice had found place in the jurisprudence of the State which sanctified an outrageous verdict by entering a remittitur, and it had so often, though erroneous, received the sanction of the Court that it was probably too late to displace it. The verdict for $4,000 was large, but the Judge before whom the case was tried thought it right, and it was not so excessive as to warrant an appellate Court in disturbing it. The judgment of the Court below would therefore be affirmed.

Messrs. Brandt and Hoffman appeared for the appellee, and Messrs. Jewett and Adams for the Company.

CHICAGO COURTS.

SALKEY AND GERSON.

The examination of the bankrupts, Salkey and Gerson, was continued a short time yesterday morning before Register Hibbard. Mr. Gerson was the only person examined, and the inquiries were directed more particularly toward the firm's books. Gerson said he was not a bookkeeper, but he thought the books were wrong. He could not, however, point out any specific error for either in false entries or omissions. In regard to the $1,200 paid his nephew, Mr. Gerson said he owed it to him, that he took the money out of the store, and sold goods to get the money, but could not tell how many he sold nor the price they brought. He made no entries of the withdrawal of the amount. Mr. Flower then suggested that if the bankrupts desired they could have time to examine their books or have them examined by an expert. This suggestion was adopted, and the Register accordingly postponed the examination for one week from yesterday, during which time it is expected the delinquent debtors will have some further statement made up which will account in some measure at least for the disappearance of the large amount for which they fail to account.

JUDICIAL CONSULTATION.

The Judges of the Superior and Circuit Courts had a private conference Saturday afternoon, at which they agreed to change the manner of holding the Criminal Court somewhat, so that each Judge will sit three months at a time instead of one, as heretofore. Judge Williams will hold the remainder of this month, and all of March; Judge Cameron will succeed in April, May, and June; Judge Farwell will dispense justice in the North Side Jail in July, August, and September; Judge Tree will follow him in October, November, and December. In 1876, Judge Booth will open in January, February, and March; Judge Moore will sentence offenders in April, May, and June; Judge Rogers will perspire in July, August, and September; and Judge Gary will close the list in October, November, and December. Fastidious criminals, therefore, who have a predilection for any particular Judge, can now time their acts so as to secure a trial before their selection. They have a choice between the nervous energy of Judge Williams, who has developed such a partiality toward the gamblers, or the cool dignity of Judge Jameson. Then, if they do not like the austere reserve of Judge Farwell, or the calm indifference of Judge Tree, they have still left a chance for a trial under the slow, hesitating sternness of Judge Booth, the "noli me tangere" style of Judge Rogers, or the ageravating pleasantry of Judge Gary, which hides an iron hand.

DIVORCES.

Martha E. Angell charges that her husband, Franklin E. Angell, has been repeatedly guilty of adultery, and she therefore asks for a divorce.

Lodowick Salisbury has mourned the absence of his wife Josephine for the legal time necessary to give him a divorce, and he now asks for that much-sought article.

ITEMS.

Judge Blodgett heard a short argument in the tax case of Jessup vs. The Chicago & Alton Railroad Company yesterday morning, when it was taken under advisement.

UNITED STATES COURTS.

Charles M. Alkins commenced a suit in debt against Charles G. Wicker and Joel H. Wicker, laying damages at $100,000.

L. M. Bates & Co. filed a creditors' bill against William J. Manning on a judgment for $8,127.86.

Moses Taylor began a suit in assumpsit against the Joliet Iron & Steel Company to recover $7,000.

BANKRUPTCY ITEMS.

James W. Sykes, a member of the Board of Trade, filed a voluntary petition to be adjudicated bankrupt. His liabilities amount to $65,064.13, over one-half of which is for money loaned, and the greater part of the balance being for losses on grain in April, 1874. His assets are only his interest in the firm of J. W. Sykes & Co., to this extent that he is entitled to a share in the profits of their business. He put no capital in the firm, and on an accounting he says his share of the profits would be nothing, his assets being overdrawn even supposing all the debts due the firm were good. The case was referred to the Register.

Rosenberg & Meyer, and a large number of others, filed a petition against Solomon and Joseph Harris, wholesale dealers in clothing and woolens at Nos. 73 and 77 Wabash avenue, under the 43d section of S. Harris' Sons' scheme of payment is the only act of bankruptcy charged. The following are the names of the parties joining in the petition, together with the amount of their claims: Rosenberg & Mayer, $2,379.30; F. Mayer & Co., $2,556.20; Meyer & Schwab, $1,712.51; A. Wimpheimer & Bro., $5,062.58; John Rupter & Silverman, $275.99; Gilbert & Goodman, $2,306.01; Kuppenheimer, $1,939.89; S. B. Hunt & Co., $2,715.33; Pomeroy & Plummer, $2,127; Rindskopf, Bros. & Co., $1,450.21; Hymes Bros. & Co., $2,510.68; Floyd Bros. & Co., $736.88; M. S. Herman & Co., $1,622.36; Woodward, Lawrence & Co., $400.39; Watson, Townley & Co., $200.11; Gilbert & Goodman, $999.61; Gowing & Grew, $2,106.98; D. H. Daysdiburg, $3,389.60; Henry Newman, $500.69; Joseph Rosenthal, $820.59; L. Morris, $2,695.54; and A. J. Herman, $1,654.29. The usual rule to show cause Feb. 22 was issued.

In the matter of Elizabeth Clark, the Assignee was authorized to sell the furniture of the bankrupt under the Pacific Hotel for $2,475.

The order of dismissal in the case of Jacob Forasst was made absolute.

SUPERIOR COURT IN BRIEF.

H. S. Carter and F. L. Warren sued J. G. Brown and H. W. Brown for $1,500.

Martha E. Muhlhausen and William Muhlhausen commenced a suit for divorce against Wilhelmina Preyer, laying damages at $5,000.

Stephen and W. F. Osgood sued W. A. Butters and W. H. Butters for $1,500.

Charles F. Happel commenced a suit by capias against William Heck to recover $1,140.

R. L. Ceapman filed a bill against Kate L. Meyers and D. S. Pride to foreclose a trust-deed for $1,800 on the west 1 foot of lot 47, in W. B. Green's Subdivision of Block 85, in Canal Trustees' Subdivision of Sec. 7, 39, 14.

G. H. Eland began an action against the Connecticut General Life Insurance Company, claiming $10,000.

Peter Hansen commenced a suit for $5,000 against the City of Chicago.

Bridget Mannon sued the Catholic Bishop of Chicago for $1,000.

CIRCUIT COURT.

The Town of Lake filed a petition against A. B. Condit and others, to have ascertained the damages for opening Englewood avenue, from Stewart avenue to Wallace street.

Jesse Adams commenced a suit in covenant against Duncan M. Ross, laying damages at $10,000.

THE COUNTY COURT.

The February term of the County Court convened yesterday, and, as is usual on the first day of each term, was devoted to the adjudication of estates. Claims against the following estates were allowed: Estate of Isaac Holmes, $1,097.95; Washington P. Brink, $61.50; John B. Rice, $2,219.15; Heinrich A. Schulte, $33.85; Alonzo Spicer, $20; Lawrence King, $76.28; Simon Oster, $51.85; Olev J. Heilsnd, $65; Carl Schmidt, $1,204.19; Michael McGrath, $497.13; Ira Porter, $543; Julius B. Leitsauer, $50.

Adjudication in the following estates was ordered: Louis Herrman, Ernst Bottger, Joseph Schneider, Charles Lodding, Sherwood A. Coan, John Eggers, Werner Spingler, Nancy Ann Voos, Elizabeth Osgood, Anna M. Metz, Abigal W. Ford, Hildebrand Steffen, Heinrich Buetzel, and Johann Borchardt.

In the matter of the Town of Lake View; rule to file objections to assessment-rolls Nos. 28 to 36 inclusive by 10 o'clock a. m.; also same rule as to the Village of Glencoe, in assessments 1 and 2; same rule as to the Village of Evanston, Nos. 4, 5, and 11; Village of Washington Heights, Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4; on motion of the Village Attorney, petition No. 5 dismissed.

In the matter of the estate of John Frank, his will was proven, and letters testamentary issued to Paul Huerter, under an approved bond of $4,000.

The will of Peter Beygeh was proven, and letters testamentary issued to Elizabeth Beygeh, under an individual bond of $68,000.

The will of David H. Forbes was proven, and letters testamentary issued to Mary Forbes, under an individual bond of $20,000. Renunciation of Thomas Kent and Alexander E. Forbes, two of the executors named in the will, was filed.

In the matter of special assessments of the City of Chicago; rule to file objections by 10 o'clock to-morrow morning in the following assessment rolls: Nos. 785, 787, 789, 795, 796, 724, 725, 726, 727, 730, 737, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 746, 748, 750, 751, 758 to 769 inclusive, 780, 831, 832, 833, 834, 836 to 845 inclusive, 851 to 857 inclusive, 869 to 881 inclusive, 888 to 902 inclusive, 904, 907, 909, 910, 912, 915, and 916.

CRIMINAL COURT.

The first business in the Court yesterday was the impanelling of a new petit jury to serve during the remainder of the term.

The case of Harry Lawrence, indicted for keeping a common gaming-house, was, on application of his counsel, A. S. Trude, continued till the next term of the Court.

The case of Peter Hand, the ex-Turnkey of the Cook County Jail, next came up. At the call of the Clerk, Peter came forward and pleaded guilty to the charge for which he was arraigned. He stated to Judge Williams that his disbursements of the refreshing fluid had not exceeded an eighth of a keg a day, in verification of which statement he was prepared to show the bills from the brewery from which he had obtained his supply. He moreover related that this violation of the law had been occasioned by his ignorance thereof, and he pleaded that since he had been installed as a public official he had not been provided with a copy of the statutes, and hence, when selling beer to the inmates of the jail, he had not been aware that he was doing anything contrary to the laws, statutes, dignity, and well-being of the State of Illinois. The Court, therefore, looked somewhat leniently upon Peter's dereliction, and assessed the lightest penalty under the circumstances, $100 fine.

The case of Tanner, the alleged murderer of Goetz, was continued till the March term.

The case of Henry F. Koeppe, charged with arson, was continued till the first week of the March term.

John Beadledorf, tried for the larceny of a gun from George Beanmont; verdict not guilty.

Patrick Grant and Timothy Ryan, tried for the larceny of two hogs from T. B. Kelly; Grant was found guilty, and term of punishment fixed at imprisonment for one year in the Penitentiary; Ryan not guilty.

August Manninghausen, tried for the larceny of a quantity of bed-clothing; verdict not guilty.

Abraham Graham pleaded guilty to the larceny of a quantity of furniture from Jacob Biersdorff; remanded.

William Brown, tried for robbing Frederick Wagner of a quantity of clothing; jury leave to seal their verdict.

The gamblers' cases will be called to-day.

THE CALL.

JUDGE GARY—76 to 101, except 80, 81, 85, 90, 94, 95, 96, 97.

JUDGE MOORE—10, 11, 12.

JUDGE ROGERS—Set case 1,029.

JUDGE BOOTH—107, 110 to 120.

JUDGE TREE—65 to 85, except 71, 73, 74, 75, and 77.

JUDGMENTS.

SUPERIOR COURT—JUDGE GARY—J. D. Easter vs. G. W. Burpee, $1,005.—F. Orb vs. Jacob Keller and August Evarts, $343.

CIRCUIT COURT—JUDGE ROGERS—Jacob Becker et al. vs. C. H. Gottig, verdict, $179.—Isaac Selligman et al. vs. H. Brannigan and Frank Kelly, $214.75.

THE COUNCIL.

It Expresses Its Abhorrence of a Court of Common Pleas.

Appeal for the Construction of More Viaducts.

Indiana-Street Railway.

The Common Council met last evening, President Dixon in the chair.

Communications from the Board of Education relative to school-sites to be purchased were received and referred to the Committee on Schools.

THE NEW COURT-HOUSE.

A communication was received from the Board of Public Works, the Council Committee on Public Buildings, and the corresponding Committee of the County Board, in reference to the building of a Court-House and City-Hall. The document embodies the substance of the proceedings of the Joint Committee as heretofore published. It sets forth the assertion, that neither the city nor county are responsible for the action so far taken in regard to architects. The Joint Committee recommends that the cost of the structure be limited to $2,500,000, and that its construction cover a period of five years. The out-stone work should be let in the winter season, so as to be finished in time for the first year's work, which should include the foundations, and in any event not go beyond the basement-walls. The second year's work can be laid out after the first year's operations are ascertained, and so on thereafter. By this plan the work could be suspended whenever the public interests seemed to require it; and, say the Committee, it would in any case be next to impossible to obtain from any contractor a bond which would afford security covering years of work. The city has a building fund of $800,000; the county has about the same amount of unsold bonds for building purposes. This would be sufficient to carry on the work for two years, and at the end of that time enough money to complete the building could be realized from the sale of the unoccupied and unproductive real estate owned by the city and county. Should the suggested methods of letting the contracts and proceeding with the work meet with favorable consideration in Common Council and the Board of County Commissioners, the Joint Committee recommend those bodies to take immediate action toward the awarding of contracts in the spring. The report was laid over.

A "COURT OF COMMON PLEAS."

Ald. Schaffner said he had been furnished with a printed copy of Barker's bill in the State Legislature, providing for the establishment of a Court of Common Pleas in Chicago. This Court would cost the city from $150,000 to $200,000 per annum, and the people of Chicago were now in no condition to undertake such an expense. There were, he was aware, certain gentlemen who were ambitions of becoming Judges of such a court, but he knew of no other reason why the bill should be passed; no such a court be established. He therefore offered a resolution urging the members of the Legislature to oppose the bill, and directing the City Clerk to forward to the presiding officers of the Senate and House copies of the resolutions.

Ald. Culverton said this bill was a mere copy of a bill offered in the Legislature two years ago, and defeated. He could give positive assurance that there was no danger of the passage of Barker's bill, though it would be as well to pass the resolutions.

Ald. Campbell questioned the propriety of the Council's instructing the Legislature as to the passage of any measure.

The resolutions were adopted by an apparently large majority.

WEST TWELFTH STREET AS A BOULEVARD.

Ald. Hildreth offered a preamble and resolution calling for a conference between the Committee on Legislation and the West Chicago Park Commissioners with a view to securing some legislation whereby the Park Commissioners may convert West Twelfth street into a boulevard. He explained the object of this to be the better protection of the southwestern part of the city from fire. The resolution was passed.

VARIOUS RESOLUTIONS.

Ald. Hildreth offered a resolution providing for legislation for the indemnification of parties whose property is destroyed to put out fires. Passed.

An ordinance repealing Chap. 45 of the Revised Ordinances, relating to the appraisement of school-lands, was referred to the Committee on Schools.

A proposition from the Globe Light Company, to furnish kerosene oil and lamps for three years for 2,000 street-lamps, at the rate of $35 per year for each lamp, was referred to the Committee on Gas-Light.

A resolution was passed calling upon the Board of Public Works to take immediate steps toward the construction of a viaduct at Blue Island avenue and Sixteenth street.

INTERESTING TO RAILROAD COMPANIES.

Ald. Jonas offered the following, which was adopted:

WHEREAS, Very many of our most important public streets are obstructed by the various railroad tracks, rendering the crossings both dangerous and uncertain; and

WHEREAS, Their franchises having been granted with the express understanding that the interests of the public as well as private individuals should be protected; and,

WHEREAS, Various schemes have been resorted to, and numerous ordinances passed,—such as bell-towers, watchmen, etc.,—all of which seem to fall short of the object desired; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Board of Public Works be and are hereby ordered and directed to enforce all laws and ordinances requiring the various railroad companies to construct viaducts on all the principal streets, and that said viaducts be commanded without further delay.

Ald. Stout came forward with a resolution to close the city offices on the 22d of February. It was passed.

THE QUALITY OF GAS, ETC.

Ald. Stout offered a resolution, which was passed, calling upon the Gas Inspector for a report as to whether the kind or quality of gas now furnished by either of the gas companies is such as they agree in their contracts to furnish; and also to report what, if any, violations of the terms or such contracts have been committed by either of the gas companies.

Ald. Ryan presented an order, which was passed, directing the Comptroller to advertise for proposals to sell the city an engine-house site near the corner of North Avenue and Leavitt street.

NEW STREET-RAILWAY ORDINANCE.

Ald. White submitted a new ordinance for a street railroad on West Indiana street. It names Samuel Hale, Simon Quinlan, B. G. Gill, John C. Polly, Charles P. McKay, Oscar Burdick, and Walter S. Ellis as incorporators of the Company, and designates the route as follows: From Western avenue on Indiana street to Milwaukee avenue, along Milwaukee avenue to Lake street, and thence east on Lake street to Michigan avenue. The ordinance was referred to the Committee on Railroads.

The Council adjourned.

The Town of Concord, Mass., will lead in the centennial anniversaries of the current year. It was there, on the 19th of April, 1775, that the first blood of the Revolution was shed, and that event is to be appropriately celebrated on the 19th of April next. The anniversary of the battle of Bunker Hill will follow in June.

STRIKERS.

The Strike of Miners in the Indiana Block-Coal Region.

Its Causes and Results—Both Parties Obstinate.

Destitution Among the Operatives—Prospects and Alternatives.

Special Correspondence of The Chicago Tribune.

BRAZIL, Ind., Feb. 13.—Probably the most discontented, unmanageable, fractious, grumbling set of men in the world, take them at all times and seasons, are coal-miners

Why this is so, I cannot imagine, and am not enough of a scientist to explain the matter away by recourse to any of the "ologies." But

DISCONTENTED, REBELLIOUS MEN

they are, whose lives, of later years, seem to have been one series of periods of hard labor, strikes, riots, starvation, and then hard labor again. Strikes are a specialty of miners, and they can certainly get up more of them in a given time than any other set of laborers, mechanics, or artisans.

Now, here in Clay County, a spot of Indiana whose natural advantages should make it the most prosperous of all prosperous counties, abounding with thriving villages, in which should be found mercantile establishments doing immense business, what does the visitor find? Why, ramshackle, dilapidated towns, with crooked, unimproved streets; small country stores, whose proprietors are constantly haunted with grim visions of bankruptcy; a young and rising generation growing up in ignorance and rags; and people out of whom every spark of enterprise has long since been eradicated by the "hard times." Truly, a deplorable state of things, and attributed by the leading citizens of the county to the influence of the

RESTLESS MINING POPULATION.

There are in Clay County employed fully 2,000 coal-miners, who work, in all, forty-five mines. Of these, thirty are shafts sunk to the coal-beds lying some distance below the surface, and the remainder are "slopes," i. e., mines dug direct into hill-sides.

As I have stated, the miners are on a strike; and it is for a matter of 15 cents on the price paid per ton to these delvers of the black diamonds.

To thoroughly understand the matter, I will take the reader back to the year 1872. Indiana block-coal was then the rage, and miners were paid $1.25 per ton. Thus was

BRAZIL'S "FLUSH" TIME,

and the town grew rapidly. Houses were built; saloons were inaugurated; men roamed the streets drunk; cutting and shooting affrays were the order of the hour; and all the scenes of Nevada during the silver excitement, and of Western Pennsylvania during that eventful period when plow-boys were made millionaires by "striking ile," were repeated, on a reduced scale to be sure, but still Brazil was a live, go-ahead place. By and by, the world began to think that Indiana block-coal was not the most precious boon ever given to an ungrateful world by the Great Dispenser of All Blessings. Coal companies in other portions of the country that had been ridden down by the Hoosier monster, began to raise their heads. The operators of Clay County found it incumbent upon them to

REDUCE THE SUBSIDY

of the miners to $1.15 per ton. Of course there was a strike; and the miners, after tiring of loading and living on short rations, gave in and went to work.

Nine months rolled by, and a reduction to $1 was made. Then there was another strike; and, when the miners wearied of living on hominy and bopes, they went to work again.

Then came a time rolled along,—no influences being brought to bear to prevent it,—and last spring, or early in the summer-time, the operators told the men that circumstances beyond their control would make a reduction to 85 cents necessary. Strike same as above, only that this time the mine-operators, wearying of the sport, inaugurated the

IMPORTATION OF COLORED MINERS.

"Ye gods! is this not a free country?" cried the miners, and straightway a series of mass-meetings were held, and processions marched the streets, and flaunted banners ornamented with mottoes about the nobility of labor and the tyranny of capital; and then—only, the miners went to work at 85 cents.

But the consequences of this strike were serious, and a blow was dealt to the coal-interests of Clay County, from which it will not recover for many a day.

While the mines lay idle, the operators in the Northern Ohio mines, watching their chance, dropped in on Chicago, and once began supplying that market with coal.

The sales in Chicago comprised 70 per cent of the Indiana block-coal business, and, when the miners gave in, Clay County operators

FOUND THEIR FIELD MONOPOLIZED.

The Ohio coals were sold at such price that Indiana could not compete.

Consequence, a stop to work, and the operators found it a dead loss to keep their mines running on full time, even at the reduction.

Miners were not able to make living wages. Three tons of coal per day is an average day's work. At 85 cents they received $2.25 per day. Average number of days' work to the week, three,—making a week's wages $6.75 per week.

Now the operators came forward and notified the men that they would decrease the price of mining to 70 cents per ton. At this price they would be enabled to regain their lost foothold in the Chicago market, and thereby

GUARANTEE FULL TIME,

which, at the rates calculated above, would give the miner $12.60 for his week's work, from which deduct about $1.50 for the expense of powder, oil, etc., which the miners are required to provide. A howl went up from 2,000 miners, and, on the next day, forty-five mines were idle, and the streets of Brazil were thronged by the men out of employment, who gathered in knots and discussed their wrongs. Then that inestimable boon of striking miners—a "mass meeting"—was indulged in; and, out of the 2,000 miners, 400 were successful in squeezing into a public hall, where they were addressed by Siney, President of the National Miners' Union. Mr. S. frankly told the men that they entered on this strike entirely

ON THEIR OWN RESPONSIBILITY,

as they could look for no aid from the treasury of the National Miners' Union, which is in a depleted condition, in consequence of the numerous and prolonged strikes indulged in by their Eastern brethren. Notwithstanding this, copper-bottomed resolutions, firmly declaring an intention of sticking with the tenacity of a postage-stamp to their rights, were passed; and, amidst loud hurrahs and great enthusiasm, the meeting adjourned.

I subsequently subjected Mr. Siney to my reportorial force-pump, and drew from him statements to the effect that

HE DID NOT FAVOR STRIKES.

He thought they should be avoided. But, in this affair and others contemporaneous, he saw "the germs of the great struggle for supremacy that is bound to eventually take place between the laboring masses of the country, considered as a unit, and capital, the monster that is grinding out the vitality of the workingman." Mr. S. continued, that "Come that struggle must, and the Lord help the undermost of the two powers."

I left Mr. Siney, and called on a number of the business-men.

BLUE INDEED

do they depict the situation. With no money in circulation, and the miners owing them heavily, either a resumption of work must be speedily inaugurated, or they will be under the necessity of borrowing $50 and taking the benefit of the Bankrupt act.

The miners, although enthusiastic at the outset of the strike, now look sullen, despondent, or dogged, according to the nature of the man, and smoke their short wooden pipes with a grim ferocity only excelled by the manner in which they swallow the vile decoctions of the barkeepers, who, always ready to "trust" until the strike is over, are characterized by the men as "the fellers what

NEVER GOES BACK ON A MAN

'cos he's hard up." This among miners is considered an encomium than which no higher could be wished for by any one, even if he be among the most eminent.

The colored miners, I am sure, from little scraps of conversation overheard, are ready and willing to resume, but are deterred from fear of their associates, and dread of an ostracism of such dense as convulsed the Ohio coal-districts nearly a year ago. Fines, in one or two cases,—those of isolated mines in different portions of the county,—a few men are at work; but they are spoken of with contumely and scorn in the poshouse poswows though they

ARE, IN REALITY, ENVIED

by men with mouths to feed and forms to clothe; men with hearts that bleed to hear a pale-faced wife ask, with trembling voice, as he goes home to eat his miserable apology for a meal, "Bill, is there no prospect of the strike getting over?"—men who grieve to see their children half-clad, growing up in ignorance and an atmosphere of vice. Yet these men see all this. Duty to families and themselves says, "Go to work;" but pride rushes in and says, "Do not be a sneak; brace up and be a man." And then the man hearkens to the lying voice of this self-pride, and lets the misery go on.

Such is the condition of affairs; for

I KNOW WHEREOF I SPEAK.

I have not walked amidst the lowly cots of the miners in vain. I have not witnessed gaunt hunger, and misery in its most abject form, in vain. I have not gazed on little faces, that should be bright and pleasant, clouded with the sullenness of unappeased appetites and utter lack of creature comforts, to no purpose.

"How long, O Lord! how long," will this state of affairs last? It cannot go on much longer. It is a long time which has no turning; and soon the choice will be, work, starvation, or crime. Which will be chosen? If the latter, which has already manifested itself in the incendiary burning, a week since, of one of the finest shafts in the district, why,

GOD HELP EVERYBODY.

Bread-riots and hunger-maddened mobs are fearful things to contemplate.

Yet the operators preserve a firm foundation for their mustaches, and say it will be all right in a few days, and soon the mines will hum with activity again. And the miners sullenly respond, "It won't be all right in a few days."

Thus the matter stands,—bosses resolute, men determined, and no immediate prospect for a change to the better. Perhaps the strike will last three months; and then what have the men gained, even should they obtain the coveted advance? Why, the privilege of working one year and two months to regain what they have lost while idle.

BUT WHO IS RESPONSIBLE

for this state of affairs? It is not for me to say that it is the result of the "grasping tyranny of capital." It is not for me to say that it is the result of a "vacillating depreciated, and irredeemable currency with which the country is flooded." It is not for me to say that "The action of Congress in placing us upon the brink of national ruin is responsible." Or that "The natural tendency of labor to rebel against capital is responsible."

No; that I leave to other pens,—partisan devotees to theories. My mission is to give the facts. I have done so, and am content to say, "Sufficient for the day is the evil thereof," and leave the mighty heads of the country to solve the great problem. S. W. C.

CITY REAL ESTATE.

FOR SALE—OCTAGON HOUSE, MICHIGAN-AV.; house, Indiana-av., $7,000, cheap; house, Prairie-av., $5,500, bargain. MEARS & CO., 160 Washington-st.

REAL ESTATE WANTED.

WANTED—A $10,000 TO $20,000 FARM NEAR CHICAGO; clear, for city property and good stock. L. J. HITZ, 128 Dearborn-st., Room 2.

WANTED—TWO STORY HOUSE AND LOT TO SUIT; west of Halsted, north of Harrison, south of Madison-st., and east of Centre-av.; worth about $6,000. J. B. KRELMS, 145 Clark-st.

WANTED—50 OR 100 FEET VACANT PROPERTY, east of Indiana-av., and north of Thirty-seventh-st. Will pay cash and lots, West Side, in city. Apply No. 40 Thirty-seventh-st.

BOARDING AND LODGING.

West Side.

418 AND 420 WABASH-AV.—GOOD BOARD FOR ladies and gentlemen, $4 to $5 per week, with use of piano; single rooms, $2.50.

South Side.

52 FOURTH-AV.—PRIVATE BOARDING-HOUSE. New house, well furnished, with bath-room, and good board. Terms, $5 per week; day-board, $4, with use of piano. Bedrooms.

694 WABASH-AV.—FRONT ROOM, HANDSOMELY furnished and well heated, with board; references exchanged.

Hotels.

BISHOP-COURT HOTEL, 267 TO 313 WEST MADISON-ST.—A conveniently located family hotel. Also first-class accommodations for young gentlemen and all persons remaining in the city a few days. Cars on Madison-st. every few minutes. Prices to suit the times.

WENDELL HOTEL, 142 AND 144 WABASH-AV., near Monroe-st.—First-class board, $7 per week; day-board, $1.50 to $2 per day.

WOOD'S HOTEL, 34 AND 36 WASHINGTON-ST., opposite Field, Leiter & Co.'s retail dry-goods store. $1 per day; day board, $5.50 per week.

BOARD WANTED.

BOARD—A YOUNG MAN WISHES TO OBTAIN board and lodging at a moderate price with a German family where he would find all the comforts of a home. Address R 74, Tribune office.

BOARD—FOR A GENTLEMAN AND WIFE IN A refined, quiet family. References exchanged. Address, with terms, including fire and gas, Z 2, Tribune office.

BOARD—AND SUITE OF ROOMS FOR FOUR young gentlemen; not to exceed $20 per week. Address P 2, Tribune office.

FINANCIAL.

APPLICATIONS ON INSIDE IMPROVED, OR FOR building loans on inside, promptly placed; short loans made; paper bought. ISAAC H. PRICE, 198 Madison-st., Room 9.

COMMERCIAL AND SECURED PAPER BOUGHT; loans on improved or unimproved city property in sums of $1,000 up. L. CURRY, 6 Tribune Building.

MONEY TO LOAN ON DIAMONDS, WATCHES, bonds, etc., at the Pawnbrokers' office, 120 Randolph-st., near Clark. Established 1854.

MORTGAGE LOANS MADE IN SUMS OF $1,000 to $50,000, on city and good suburban property. Purchase-money notes wanted. M. M. WILDER, Room 1, 128 LaSalle-st.

TO LOAN—$50,000 OF TRUST FUNDS IN SUMS of $5,000 and over. Applications solicited at 9 and 10 per cent. 167 Madison-st.

TO LOAN—A FEW THOUSAND DOLLARS ON good real estate security. C. W. WESTON, 119 Dearborn-st.

9 PER CENT LOANS ON IMPROVED PROPERTY in Chicago made, and mortgages bought by LAZARUS SILVERMAN, Chamber of Commerce.

$1,000 $1,500, $2,000, AND $3,000 CASH IN hand to loan on private real estate. Apply at 45 ones to EDWARD S. DREYER, 120 Madison-st., Room 7.

$1,000 TO BUY FIRST MORTGAGE SHORT paper. H. J. GOODRICH, 128 Dearborn-st.

LOST AND FOUND.

LOST—$5 REWARD—A LADY'S FLAT LINK bracelet, on Washington or Ann-sts., Sunday, Feb. 14, of more value to its owner as a keepsake of a mother's gift. Please return to 210 West Washington-st.

LOST—SUNDAY EVENING—A GENTLEMAN'S ring (emerald with 4 diamonds), and initials engraved on inside. A reward of $10 will be paid for its return to W. W. WATKINS, 131 and 133 Lake-st.

LOST—THE 15TH FEB., A LADY'S SEAL-SKIN cap, on Michigan-av., between Twenty-second and Fourteen-sts. Finder will be rewarded by leaving the same at 1149 Indiana-av.

LOST—THREE COWS, SATURDAY LAST, FROM 66 Wright-st.; one has been seen; one is calved; had Durham, long tail; other now has white on each foot. $10 reward will be given for information at above number.

LOST—SUNDAY EVENING, A GOLD OBLONG, enclosed ear-ring. Return to W. M. MAYO, 103 State-st. A liberal reward.

LOST—ON MONROE-ST., BETWEEN HALSTED and Desplaines-sts., a pocket-book containing a small sum of money, one bank-note, and papers of no value except to the owner. A liberal reward will be paid for the recovery at drug store, corner of Halsted and Monroe-sts.

PICKED UP—ON MORNING OF 15TH, ONE DARK brown mare and sleigh, at Chicago Union Line Works, corner Ninteenth-st. and Lincoln-av. Owner can have same by proving property.

PARTNERS WANTED.

PARTNER WANTED—TO MEMBERS OF BOARD of Trade, and others—I've young men with capital and a good trade want third partner; active in grain and produce commission. Address W 96, Tribune office.

PARTNER WANTED—A GRAIN COMMISSION house in Chicago, with a well-established business, desires an additional partner with $5,000 to $10,000 capital. Address COMMISSION HOUSE, Tribune office.

PARTNER WANTED—WITH MEANS, FOR A commercial business; can be developed to any extent. I am thoroughly experienced, and have good connections and prospects; this is solid. Address X 65, Tribune office.

PARTNER WANTED—IN THE WHOLESALE manufacturing business by an old-established house, having the trade of the leading houses of Chicago; a party having good ideas as to financial and feasible management; a limited capital required. O 98, Tribune office.

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SINGER SEWING-MACHINE—PRINCIPAL OFFICE 151 State-st. Machines sold on monthly payments; 10 per cent discount for cash.

SINGER OFFICE OF A. J. MELCHERT, CITY Agent—Singer machines sold on monthly payments; rented low; repaired. 215 South Halsted-st.

$45 SINGER. LATEST IMPROVED FAMILY Sewing Machine; cost $95, equal to new in every particular. Has all attachments, tuck-marker, &c., leaf-cabinet, box cover, and drawers. No. 71 Twenty-sixth-st.

AGENTS WANTED.

AGENTS WANTED—TO SELL A VERY PROFITable and salable article; you can make from $3 to $5 per day. Call at 69 South Clark-st., Room 16.

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TO-DAY'S AMUSEMENTS.

HOOLEY'S THEATRE—Randolph street, between Clark and LaSalle. "Dora" and "Jenny Lind."

McVICKER'S THEATRE—Madison street, between Dearborn and State. Engagement of Charlotte Cushman. "Guy Mannering."

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—Halsted street, between Madison and Monroe. Engagement of Madame Janauschek. "Deborah."

CHICAGO MUSEUM—Monroe street, between Dearborn and State. "Foul Play." Afternoon and evening.

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE—Clark street, opposite Sherman House. Kelly & Leon's Minstrels. "Frou-Frou."

ADELPHI THEATRE—Dearborn street, corner Monroe. Variety entertainment. "The French Spy."

McCORMICK HALL—North Clark street, corner Kinzie. Concert by Gilmore's Twenty-second Regiment Band.

SOCIETY MEETINGS.

D. A. CASHMAN LODGE, No. 298, A. F. and A. M., corner Madison and Ashley-sts.—Regular communication this (Tuesday) evening, at 7½ o'clock. Work, 2d Degree. R. W. Dan'l J. Avery, D. D. G. M., will visit the Lodge on this occasion. H. J. DAUPHINEY, W. M.

I. O. O. F.—All members of Rainbow Lodge, No. 40, I. O. O. F., are hereby notified to meet at the Northwestern Depot, on Wednesday, Feb. 17, at 12:30 p. m., to attend the funeral of Bro. Jas. S. Trowbridge.
WM. CARGILLE, N. G.

ATTENTION, SIR KNIGHTS.—Stated Conclave of Apollo Commandery, No. 1, K. T., this (Tuesday) evening, at 7:30 o'clock, at the Asylum, for business and work on K. T. Orders. Visiting Sir Knights courteously invited. By order the E. C.
B. B. W. LOCKE, Recorder.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

WE MEAN ALL WE SAY.—FULL SET BEST GUM teeth, $8. Satisfaction or money refunded. Filling, first-class, at half the usual rates. McCHESNEY, 75 Clark-st.

INDEX TO ADVERTISEMENTS.

THIRD PAGE—City Real Estate, Wants, To Rents, Horses and Carriages, Financial, Musical, Agents Wanted, Lost and Found, Boarding and Lodging, etc., etc.

SEVENTH PAGE—New Publications, Railroad Time-Table, Medical Cards, etc., etc.

The Chicago Tribune.

Tuesday Morning, February 16, 1875.

It is now very evident that a false construction has been put upon the President's Arkansas message by the Democratic press and some of the Republican papers. It has been very generally construed as in the nature of a threat that, in the event that Congress should pass *no* legislation on Arkansas affairs, the President would proceed to break up the existing Government, oust GARLAND, and put BROOKS into the Governor's chair. But a late number of the Washington *Star*, in what is accepted as a semi-official statement, says: "If Congress adjourns without deciding the questions at issue, it is more than likely that the President will consider that Congress acquiesces in the present political status of Arkansas and leaves Gov. GARLAND to manage the affairs of that State." This is the course which the President adopted in the case of Louisiana, and it is entirely reasonable to suppose he will follow it in the case of Arkansas. We hope and believe he will.

The Circuit and Superior Judges have come to a very wise conclusion in deciding to make each criminal term *three* months instead of *one*. Under the present system of rotation, it has been the practice of the Circuit and Superior Judges to take charge of the criminal business, one each month. This practice has seriously impeded the business of the Court. No sooner had a Judge got fairly into the harness than he was obliged to give way to one of the others. The term was so short that many important cases were thrown over to the next term in the fear that they could not be finished before the term ended, and so indefinitely postponed in some cases. Under the new rule, there will be ample time for the Grand Jury, the State's Attorney, and the Court to give full justice to any and every criminal case that is presented, and each one of the Judges will become more competent to preside over the trial of criminal cases.

The American right of petition to Congress was never more grossly abused and burlesqued than it has been in the memorials presented to Congress praying that body *not* to tax tea and coffee, but to *add* 10 per cent to the taxes on all manufactured articles. These memorials represent simply and exclusively the protected classes who seek to enlarge their present profits at the expense of the people and the Government. They no more represent the public sentiment of this country than that exclusive and grasping class of people represent it. They can get up petitions, of course. Their employes will sign it; all the idlers and loafers will sign it. Most persons will sign it rather than offend the person circulating it, who has a personal, selfish interest in the matter. He wants the privilege to mark up his wares 10 per cent and transfer the money of his neighbors to his own pockets. He is opposed to a *revenue* tariff; he wants more "protection," more "grab law." Hence, he runs round with his petition for people to sign against any tax on tea and coffee, which would put all the tax into the Treasury, and for 10 per cent more tax on all manufactures, which will enable him to pocket 10 per cent on his stock of wares on hand, and to charge 10 per cent thereafter on all the stuff he manufactures. These memorials are therefore simply "put-up jobs" on Congress, and are bogus as expressions of public sentiment. In the first place, public sentiment is opposed to all increase of taxation at this time, not believing it necessary. In the next place, it will sanction no increase that is not for necessary revenue. It is absurd, then, to pretend that public sentiment is opposed to a tax on tea and coffee, all of which will go to the Government, and in favor of an increased tax on manufactures, three-fourths of which will go to the manufacturers.

The Chicago produce markets were generally weak yesterday. Mess pork was active, and 15@20c per brl lower, closing at $18.10 @18.12 1-2 cash, and $18.17 1-2 for March. Lard was active, and 7 1-2@10c per 100 lbs lower, closing at $13.45@13.45 1-2 cash, and $13.52 1-2 for March. Meats were dull and easier at 6 5-8@6 3-4c for shoulders, 9 5-8c for short ribs, and 10c for short clears. Dressed hogs were quiet and firm, closing at $7.75@8.00 per 100 lbs. Highwines were quiet and easier, closing nominal. Flour was more active and steady. Wheat was dull, and 3-8@1-2c lower, closing at 83 7-8c cash, and 84 5-8c for March. Corn was tame, and 3-8 @1-2c lower, closing at 63 1-4c for March, and 70 3-8c for May. Oats were quiet and steady, closing at 52 1-2c cash, and 52 5-8c for March. Rye was quiet at 98 1-2c. Barley was more active and firmer, closing at $1.10 for March, and $1.08 for April. Hogs were active and firm. Sales chiefly at $6.75 @7.25. Cattle were inactive and nominally unchanged. Sheep were in good demand and firm.

The latest schedule of imports at the port of New York scarcely verifies Secretary BARROW's gloomy estimate of $13,000,000 decrease in the customs' receipts for the current year. For the week ending Jan. 23, the value of goods brought into the port of New York was $6,750,253 against $5,883,972 for the corresponding week in January of last year. The total value of goods entered at the port of New York for the month of January, 1875, $25,838,137 as against $25,645,597 for the month of January, 1874. Although this is not a very marked increase, it certainly does not warrant the estimate of $13,000,000 decrease in customs' receipts from those of last year, which were $25,000,000 less than those of the year before. It looks rather as though the turning-point has been reached, and as though the Government has already felt the worst effects of the panic. The duties received at New York for the week ending Feb. 6 amounted to $2,980,804, or at the rate of $155,000,000 per annum, which is more for the single port of New York than the Secretary of the Treasury has estimated for the entire customs' receipts of the country for the current year. Though this may not be maintained as an average, it can scarcely fail to cast a doubt on the Secretary's doleful estimate. The latter will only be verified in case there is an increase of the tariff of 10 per cent, thereby excluding the importation of some articles altogether.

Since writing the above, we have received an Associated Press dispatch from Washington to the effect that the income of the Government yesterday from customs and internal revenue sources was over $2,000,000. This is the largest total for any one day since the panic of 1873. Part of the large increase is ascribed by the correspondent, and probably with justice, to the desire of merchants to remove goods from bond before the passage of the new Tax bill. But the force of this movement alone will not account for the large and steady increase of revenue beginning with the present year. The receipts for January could not have been so greatly affected by the prospect of higher tariff-duties, since it was not known during that month what articles the Ways and Means Committee would recommend for taxation. The true interpretation of the facts is that there has been a decided improvement in the financial condition of the country, caused, perhaps, by the official announcement contained in the new Finance bill, that the Government will begin the redemption of its past-due obligations at a day fixed. It is something for merchants to know that there will be no disturbance of values by fresh issues of paper-money.

THE ILLINOIS RIVER IMPROVEMENT.

The Legislature of Illinois, in April, 1873, appropriated the net revenues of the Illinois & Michigan Canal for the construction of a lock and dam at the mouth of Copperas Creek on the Illinois River, the whole cost of the work not to exceed $430,000. In October, 1874, $100,000 of these net revenues had accumulated. The estimate for the work was $427,000. In the meantime Congress had made an appropriation of $100,000 for the improvement of the Illinois River. Upon representations by the Governor and other State authorities, a portion of this money was expended in building the foundations for the lock at Copperas Creek. This expenditure by the United States, and the work done by the State Commissioners, has reduced the amount necessary to be expended by the State to $260,949. To meet this they have cash on hand and estimated tolls for 1875 amounting to $189,397, and application has been made to the State to appropriate the difference, amounting to $71,552.

A few days ago a Springfield dispatch, coming late at night, contained the argument of the minority of the Legislative Committee in opposition to the appropriation, and the night-editor in charge of the late news, misunderstanding the constitutional provision on this subject, inadvertently indorsed this report. This subject has been so often and so thoroughly discussed in THE TRIBUNE that but few of our readers could have been misled by the brief paragraph in question. The State of Illinois has the canal and it has the Illinois River. The design of the canal was to afford continuous navigation from the lake to the Mississippi River, but, owing to various causes, the river ceased to be navigable but for a short time each season, and the canal ceased to connect with the river. To make either available it was found necessary to construct locks and dams on the river. One such lock and dam has been constructed at Henry, which has practically extended river navigation north to LaSalle, and securing an abundant supply of water at all seasons. The construction of the second lock and dam at Copperas Creek will be to secure this navigation from a point 60 miles further south. All that is required to complete it is $71,000. The appropriation is but an advance of one year's surplus earnings of the canal. A few years hence the other locks will secure a permanent steamboat navigation on the Illinois River from March until December through from the lakes to the Mississippi, and thence to the Ohio River and the extreme South.

The argument of the minority that the expenditure is unconstitutional is based upon a misapprehension of the restriction of the Constitution, which reads:

> The General Assembly shall never loan the credit of the State or make appropriations from the Treasury thereof in aid of railroads or *canals: Provided*, That any surplus earnings of any canal may be appropriated for its enlargement or extension.

This restriction is exclusively upon any appropriations in aid of railroads or canals. The bill pending before the Legislature is to appropriate $71,000 to improve the Illinois River, and is no more an appropriation for the canal than is the appropriation made last session for the Wabash River. It is true that to improve the Illinois River and make it navigable is to greatly benefit the business of the canal and add to its revenues, as it is to benefit the people of a very large portion of the State; but an improvement of the river so as to make it navigable is not unconstitutional because of its resulting benefits. There is no weight or force in the "constitutional" objection. What the Constitution intended was to prevent the Legislature engaging in any undertaking to enlarge the canal itself so as to make it, at the expense of the State, a wide stream; and the Constitution limited any appropriation for that purpose to the net revenues derived from the canal. The river improvement, constitutionally, is an independent work, and stands precisely on the same ground that it would do if there were no canal at all. The river has ceased to be available for trade and commerce, and can only be made so by the construction of these locks and dams.

The minority of the Committee absurdly argue that the benefits resulting from this canal only extend to a strip of territory 15 miles on each side of the river; that it only affords cheap transportation to the products within this strip. The river cuts the State into two large districts, both productive and thickly peopled. On each side of this river have been constructed one or more railroads running parallel with the river. Admitting that the river naturally drains only the transportation for a belt of territory 30 miles wide, yet the railroads, to compete at all, must adjust their tolls to those of the river, and, as the railroads extend the area drained by the river and the roads to 100 miles in width, we have the river rates regulating and controlling the railroad rates within the whole breadth of territory tributary to the roads. These roads, moreover, have rival routes running at a still greater distance from the river; these rival routes, to compete successfully with the roads running near the river, must adapt their rates to those already regulated and controlled by the river transportation. The benefits of the river, as a regulator of transportation rates, are not confined to the mere products moved on the river itself, but are felt by the shipper on every road which has to compete with river transportation or to compete with other railroads running in competition with the river route. It is not possible to mark the territorial limits within which the free and uninterrupted navigation of the Illinois River exercises a controlling or modifying influence on the rates of transportation.

The completion of that improvement will bring all that part of the State on the Ohio River and up the Mississippi certainly as far as Keokuk into direct water communication through the Illinois River with all the northern part of the State. The only parties in the State directly and pecuniarily interested in preventing the completion of the Illinois improvement is the railroad interest, which, with that river made navigable, can never dictate its own terms. The Grangers should certainly see this fact.

The whole amount necessary for the present work is but $70,000,—an infinitesimal sum in the tax levy, but all important because essential to complete this second dam and lock. Sixty miles of steamboat navigation is to be secured permanently at a cost of about $1,200 a mile!

THE ARKANSAS CASE.

We have received the majority and minority reports of the Special Committee of the House of Representatives on the Arkansas case. Judge POLAND, and Messrs. SCUDDER, SAYLER, and SLOSS, unite in the opinion that no action of Congress or any other department of the General Government is needed in relation to Arkansas. The minority report is signed only by Mr. J. D. WARD, of this city, who reaches the conclusion that BROOKS was elected Governor in 1872, under the Constitution then in force, and is now the lawful Governor of Arkansas. Mr. WARD's objections to the validity of the new Constitution, after of course denying the legality of the election of the members of the Legislature which passed an act calling the Constitutional Convention, are substantially as follows:

1. That the old Constitution of the State provided that "in all elections by the people the electors shall vote by ballot"; and that the Legislature, in the act providing for the election of delegates to the Convention, enacted that the ballots as deposited by the voters should be numbered so as to correspond with the number of the voters on the poll-book; therefore, the election for delegates was violative of the State Constitution.

2. That the Convention provided that in voting on the ratification of the Constitution the ballots should be numbered in the same way.

3. That the Convention designated certain persons State Supervisors, by whom County Supervisors and judges of election should be appointed, to whom the returns should be made, and the result declared. The act of the Legislature was silent on this subject, and the Convention supplied the deficiency; that in doing this the Convention exercised legislative power, which it had no authority to do.

4. The Convention was not required by law to keep a journal, and therefore its record is no legal evidence of its proceedings. The Convention could not make laws for the State, nor suspend or set aside any law.

5. The Convention had no power to regulate the means to be pursued for the adoption of the Constitution, or for the ascertainment and declaration of the fact.

6. The Constitution was put in force by the declaration of three persons appointed by the Convention.

7. That Arkansas was admitted to representation in Congress in 1868 upon the condition that the Constitution should not be so amended as to deprive any citizen, or class of citizens, of the right to vote who are entitled to vote by the Constitution (of 1868), provided that any alteration of said Constitution, prospective in effect, may be made in regard to the *time* and place of residence of voters; that the new Constitution changed the time of residence of legal voters from six months to one year, and therefore violated the "fundamental condition."

8. That, in view of these objections, the acts of the Convention and the new Constitution are all void.

We regret to say that if Mr. WARD's objections to the validity of the new Constitution of the State of Arkansas have the force of rendering that Constitution void, there is a very serious doubt whether the present Constitution of Illinois is not also void.

The Constitution of the State of Illinois of 1848 provided that "all votes shall be given by ballot." The Legislature enacted that before all elections there shall be a formal registration of the voters; it also provided that the ballot of each voter should be marked by a number, so as to identify the same. The Convention which framed the Constitution of 1870 provided that the votes for or against the Constitution should be marked according to law, but enacted that there should be no previous registration, as required by the law of the State. Here, then, the action in Illinois and in Arkansas, in providing for the marked ballots and suspending the law requiring registration, was identical, and if that action was void in Arkansas it was equally void in Illinois.

The Convention of Illinois, by ordinance, provided that the Secretary of State should have printed blank poll-books, return-lists, and ballots, printed and delivered to the election officers, and directed that the same should be paid for out of the State Treasury; it created a special board to receive the returns and proclaim the result; all of which was perhaps a greater exercise of legislative power than was exercised by the Convention in Arkansas. The Convention of Illinois kept a journal, and the Constitution was put in force by declaration by the person designated by the Convention. The Convention further provided by ordinance that in certain contingency the Governor and Secretary of State should fix the apportionment of members of the next General Assembly. It will be seen that if the Convention in Arkansas so exceeded the authority of a Constitutional Convention as to render the Constitution, subsequently ratified by the people, void, then the Convention in Illinois, having transgressed even more flagrantly, our Constitution must also be void. What is just, right, and legal for Arkansas ought to be just, right, and legal for Illinois. Principles are not changed by geographical limits.

Mr. WARD claims that the Arkansas Constitution proposes to re-establish slavery in that State, because bills have been introduced in the Legislature (not passed): 1. Abolishing the distinction between grand and petty larceny; 2. Establishing sub-penitentiaries in the several counties; and 3. For the sale or hiring of convict labor. We regret to say that if these laws indicate the re-establishment of slavery Illinois is in as great peril as Arkansas. While we have not abolished the distinction between grand and petty larceny, yet it has been strongly advocated, and we have laws under which the inmates of county jails, convicts for petty offenses, may be transferred from that class of prisons to any house of correction; and we have other laws which authorize the hiring out to the highest bidders the labor of all vagrants and other inmates in such houses of correction and in the State Penitentiary, and the proceeds of such hiring actually cover the whole cost of maintaining the State Prison. Notwithstanding which facts, we have no apprehension that slavery is about to be established in Illinois.

MODIFICATION OF THE POTTER LAW.

The report of the Railroad Commissioners of Wisconsin is a readable, though lengthy, document. It betokens an honest endeavor to disseminate practical information regarding the railroads of the State. The report proper covers 140 printed pages. Over 500 additional pages comprise statistical tables, showing the operations of Wisconsin railroads, their cost, comparisons of the POTTER law rates with corresponding rates on roads in other States, and copies of all communications or decisions bearing upon the subject. Evidently the Commissioners aimed to present both sides of the question. Their views in the main are conservative, and their recommendations doubtless will command consideration.

Their first duty, it is announced, was to acquaint themselves with the nature of the controversy. They find that every industry and every interest of society are affected in some way by the cost of transportation, that the interests of the railroads and the people are not always identical, that competition is but an uncertain reliance, and conclude that the controversy is irrepressible if reliance is placed upon economical laws alone, it being a conflict between the interests of society on the one hand and the natural selfishness of monopolies on the other. They dwell at considerable length upon the undue cost of construction, the injudicious location of roads and their mismanagement. In defense of the POTTER law they claim it is based on the principle of general rather than specific legislation, that maximum are preferable to special rates, and that it provides for correct information as a basis of future action. The faults they indicate are numerous: it bears heavily on the new roads, is not sufficiently elastic, takes no account of short distances, fixes maxima for car-loads only, treats connecting lines as continuous, but is silent as to division of earnings, imposes duties impossible of accomplishment, and inadequately provides for enforcement. By way of remedy they advise that the cost of the Wisconsin roads be determined by appraisal,—the Commissioners to have the aid of competent engineers in this work,—and the appraisal to be subject to limitation and revision by the Legislature; and that the rates of fare and freight be so adjusted as not to yield more than a reasonable return upon the cost thus ascertained. Meantime, until this appraisal is made, the roads are to be subject to no other limitation than the prohibition of unjust discrimination, the enforcement of close running connections with other roads, better police regulations, and the keeping of more complete and uniform accounts.

In accordance with these recommendations, the Commissioners have prepared a bill which is to be laid before the Railroad Committees to-day. It provides that the Commissioners appointed under the POTTER law shall ascertain what would be the cost of duplicating each road in the State. The value of the property is not to be rated above the aggregate amount of the mortgage debt and paid stock of such company; nor is the appraisal to be less than the original, actual cash cost of the construction and equipment of the road, with all subsequent additions and improvements. This appraisal, together with the report of the gross and net earnings of the railroad companies, are to be subject to revision and limitation by the Legislature at the next succeeding session; but, until such revision, the appraisal of the Commissioners shall be deemed conclusive, and shall determine the classification of the companies as follows: All railroads whose net earnings from business in Wisconsin for the year ending June 30 next preceding the appraisal shall exceed 10 per cent on the amount of such appraisal shall be placed in, Class A, and all roads falling below 10 per cent net are to be put in Class B. This 10 per cent net is to be exclusive of the amount paid for taxes and licenses; and such income is to be deemed ample and reasonable compensation for the services of any railroad and the use of its property; and no restriction or limitation, except the prohibition of unjust discrimination, is to be imposed on any railroad which falls below Class A. Until this classification is made, all companies now limited by the POTTER law to a charge of 3 cents per mile for passengers are to be continued under that restriction; and, if afterwards ascertained to belong to Class A, they are not to be allowed to charge or receive a higher rate than 3 cents per mile for passengers and 1 1-2 cents per mile for children under 12. In regard to freight, the roads are not to be restricted until they have earned more than 10 per cent on their appraised valuation, when the rates they have previously charged for freight are to be decreed their maximum rates so long as the company remains in Class A. The remainder of the act provides for the protection of persons deeming themselves aggrieved, makes it the duty of the Commissioners to investigate complaints, and, if thought necessary, report the same to the Attorney-General, who is to prosecute the companies and enforce the penalties provided.

This bill is intended to be inserted after the sixth section of the POTTER law as an amendment thereto. The features which commend it to the general public are that it proposes to make no allowance for "watered" stock, prohibits unjust discrimination, and at the same time recognizes the right of the companies to earn 10 per cent on the actual cost of their property.

The method of arriving at the cost of a railway is the province of an expert. For this purpose the Commissioners must call in the aid of engineers to arrive at correct conclusions.

Such, however, is the sentiment in Wisconsin that it is very probable the law will be modified as herein indicated. Although the reputation of the State has suffered beyond computation by the passage of the POTTER law, the people are not prepared for its abrogation. Still, they profess to be magnanimous and to meditate no injustice against the railroads. Their representatives declare there is no disposition to deny the railroads a fair return upon the capital invested. Seeing, then, the companies cannot obtain all they ask, it is hoped they will at least yield a reluctant assent to the plan proposed, and trust to the returning moderation of the people and the wisdom of future Legislatures to complete the reparation of which the proposed modification is a certain promise.

TRAINS FOR WORKINGMEN.

We have received advance sheets of the sixth annual report of the Massachusetts Board of Railroad Commissioners. It is mainly devoted to topics of local interest, but contains some fresh facts about the system of workingmen's trains which we described a few days ago.

Shortly after the terrible Revere accident on the Eastern Railroad, the Company cast about it for means of regaining the popularity which that disaster cost it. The Commissioners took advantage of this to urge the trial of cheap trains, morning and evening, between Boston and Lynn. The Company consented to make the experiment in November, 1872. It has found it, so says the report, "a great and growing success." The trains leave Lynn at 5:35 a. m. and Boston at 6:35 p. m. The fare is 5 cents for the whole trip of 14 miles or any part of it. In 1873, 187,016 persons took these trains. In 1874, 266,500 did so. During 1874, the cheap trains cleared a profit of $7.15 per trip. They were 14 per cent more profitable to the Company than the regular passenger trains. Moreover, they did not interfere with the business of the latter. Cheap fares created a new class of passengers. Workingmen moved out into the suburbs when they found they could get good air, good water, and good food and yet keep their places in town, and could do this without paying more for fares than they were paying in the horse-cars. It is a well-known fact that cheapening an article increases the demand for it. So, when travel became cheap, more persons traveled. They went to Boston on slighter pretexts. At first, the cheap trains were looked upon with some distrust. Very few women patronized them. This feeling has passed away. They are now in high favor. They have, indeed, become somewhat unwieldy in size, averaging nine cars apiece. The experiment has been a success for two years. There is no danger of its discontinuance now.

The conditions of a similar success do not exist here, perhaps, in an equal degree, for the country is not as thickly settled. At the same time, such trains would probably pay and pay well. There are thousands of Chicago workpeople living in wretched tenements, on undrained, unhealthy streets, who would gladly move in the suburbs, and would do so if cheap fares allowed it. The gain in health and comfort would be very great. We have already sketched the many incidental benefits of the system.

The railroad managers would doubtless say, in answer to this suggestion, that if there were any need of such trains residents along their roads would ask for them. But, in the first place, many persons who would use the trains are now perforce living in the city; and, secondly, the public is a very dumb animal which has to be goaded a long while before it cries out. There was no expressed popular demand for the Eastern Railroad's cheap trains before they were put on the road, but the result shows that the demand existed. Residents in our suburbs would do well to move in this matter and convince the railroad companies that they want these trains.

HAINES' COLLAR.

The *Times* has sought to divert attention from a very large brass collar, marked "HAINES, his purp," which it is wearing, by charging that those papers which are engaged in criticizing the official and officious career of Mr. E. M. HAINES, Speaker of the House, are wearing brass collars inscribed "U. S. GRANT, his purp." The charge which has been made against Mr. HAINES over and over again during the past month or more, and has not yet been denied, is that he has subsidized the clerical force of the Legislature, which is composed mainly of newspaper correspondents, to write him and the Bourbons up and the Republicans down, and that he has refused to certify to their pay unless they follow instructions, and that in some cases the letters have been sent to the "Speaker" for revision and approval! In some instances these correspondents write for a single paper, as the *Times* for instance; in others for half a dozen or more. They have little or no clerical business to perform, because the Legislature, delayed and harassed by its quibbling "Speaker," has done nothing since it met but to get out of one snarl and perplexity into another, owing to his partisan and unparliamentary ruling and partisan wire-pulling to place himself upon the course for the Gubernatorial chair. Consequently, the clerks have no other work than to write up "Speaker" HAINES at the rate of $4 per day, drawn from the State Treasury upon Mr. HAINES' certificate, which he gives if the letters suit him. Among the clerical correspondents thus engaged, we are informed, is the representative of the Chicago *Times*, who writes Mr. HAINES up in his letters, which are editorially indorsed by the working force at home, so that the whole concern is wearing the brass collar marked "HAINES, his purp," and doing the dirty work. The fact that the brass-collared HAINES' purp is doing HAINES' dirty work is specially manifest because HAINES has cast his lot with the Bourbons whom the *Times* jesuitically pretends to assail, and with whom secretly it sympathizes. It does not become a paper which has such a large assortment of collars on hand that one day it can wear HAINES' collar, the next day SAM ARNTON's, the next LONERGAN's, and the next FAIRBANK's, to talk about collars at all.

Mr. HAINES has made himself a suitable subject for criticism, not only by his official misconduct as Speaker, but by his general political tergiversations. He has changed his political coat several times for a purpose. He has deserted his old friends, and, first pretending to be an Independent, has gone over, body, soul, and breeches, into the Bourbon camp. Like all young converts, he is enthusiastic, and insists upon more than his fair share of the dirty work the Bourbons have on hand. The old Bourbons have no objection of course to be relieved from soiling their fingers, and are willing that he should take the odium, and stand by and watch the young convert with a smile of contempt. Some are rather surprised that a newspaper like the *Times*, professing to be "independent of party," should appear as an apologist and defender of this new convert to Bourbonism. It can only be explained by the fact that it wears the brass collar marked "HAINES, his purp," and under its mask of pretended independence there lies concealed a Bourbon heart.

THE TAX ON MATCHES.

A notable feature of the Revenue bill introduced into the House of Representatives is the proposed repeal of the tax on matches. This tax is perhaps the most harmless and least objectionable of all that was ever levied. Its burden falls so equitably upon all classes of the community, and so lightly on every individual consumer, that it is paid without a murmur and without being felt in any quarter. Yet this tax, so infinitesmal in the individual contributions, yields the Government a revenue of more than $2,500,000 a year. The expense of collection is as nearly *nil* as that of collecting any tax ever conceived. The evasions are few, if any, because the profits of the fraud are too small to warrant the risk of the penalty attached. In one word, it is a tax yielding a pure revenue of millions to the Treasury, but not one cent of tribute to "protection," and for this reason the attorneys in Congress of the protected classes propose to have it repealed.

In view of the fact that the new Tax bill of the Ways and Means Committee is based upon the pretended necessity for increasing the revenues, it is certainly most remarkable that it should start off with a proposition to repeal one of the easiest taxes now levied, which yields an annual revenue of more than two millions and a half. There is but one way to explain it. It is a piece of monstrous corruption. It is a concession to a lobby of match-manufacturers, who are no wise suffering from the tax, which is paid in imperceptible amounts by the people who use matches. This proposition was made once before, and Senator BAYARD, of Delaware, exposed the petty frauds lying behind it. Under the present law, no box of matches may be sold that does not bear a one-cent stamp, the rate per hundred, even though the box contain less than a hundred. The result is, that, in buying a 5-cent box of matches, the purchaser can be pretty sure to receive a hundred matches. If there were no tax, however, there are a large number of match-manufacturers who would not merely add the repealed tax to their profits, but would reduce the number of matches in the cheapest boxes to 75 or 50. This is one of the proposed frauds that have secured so great a pressure upon Congress for the repeal of the tax. But, as it is evident that the consumers would pay as much as they do now, and perhaps more, after the tax had been repealed, and the Government thereby deprived of more than $2,500,000 annually, it is difficult to understand how the Ways and Means Committee could be induced to sanction so transparent a fraud.

There is but one way in which this proposed repeal can be accounted for. It is another scheme of the protected classes to secure the increase of 10 per cent tax on the whole line of manufactured goods. They feel the necessity for some plausible pretext for making this wicked increase. They know that, even if it be necessary to raise $30,000,000 a year surplus revenue, it can be done without touching the tariff as it stands. They therefore propose to repeal one of the most productive and satisfactory excise taxes in order to furnish an excuse for enlarging their own profits on all kinds of manufactures. That the Ways and Means Committee should have consented to so unholy an alliance with these high-tariff-robbers of the East is a disgrace to our country and our time. They have underestimated the intelligence of the people if they believe the real secret for repealing the match tax will be either ignored or forgiven.

THE RIVER AND HARBOR BILL.

With the promulgation of the River and Harbor Appropriation bill, as reported by the House Committee on Commerce, Congress will scarcely dare to reassert the position heretofore taken that it is impossible to cut down appropriations any further. It is proposed to invest $6,000,000 during the ensuing year in the professed improvements of rivers and harbors. The Western list of proposed improvements includes about seventy-five different places in as many different Congressional Districts. In addition to these, there is an Eastern list, also Southern list, also an interior list, also a Pacific Coast list. In fact, a close examination of the bill would probably reveal the fact that some money is set aside for nearly every Congressional District in the United States, certainly for every one that has a river running through it, or a town on a lake, bayou, or bay, which can be distorted into the aspect of a harbor. The River and Harbor Appropriation bill is always a mosaic work, put together by a very common Congressional process of construction known as log-rolling. The Congressman from Maine or Michigan will not vote for the river improvement wanted by the Congressman from Florida or Texas unless the Congressman from Florida or Texas agrees to vote for the harbor improvement wanted by the Congressman from Maine or Michigan. It has long since ceased to be a question of comparative merit between the different appropriations asked for the river and harbor improvements. The first essential to the passage of the bill is that a majority of the Congressmen shall have appropriations for their individual districts, in order that they may furnish some influential constituent or packer of a ward caucus with a fat contract.

If hard times are pressing the Government revenues as closely as the Secretary of the Treasury and the Ways and Means Committee would have us believe, why could not Congress forego this log-rolling process for one year at least? Why not limit the river and harbor appropriations to such localities and to such amounts for which there is an actual and immediate demand for some repair or improvement, without which the present value of the river or port will be lost to the public? If so limited, we have not the slightest doubt that the proposed appropriation of $6,000,000 might be reduced more than one-half, thus saving $3,000,000 revenue for the coming year of hard times. The reduction might, for aught we know, be still greater. At all events, when the Government receipts are alleged to be falling short of its expenditures, when the people are paying all the taxes they can afford, and when money for transacting business is difficult to get, it is folly, if not a crime, to invest public funds in improvements of a future and contingent value but at present unproductive. Here, then, is one of the spots where Congress may retrench. Without any special information on the subject, we hazard the belief that one-half the places named might be stricken from the list, together with the amount set aside for each, without doing the slightest damage to the interests of the public. But perhaps the attorneys in Congress of the "protected classes" would not consent to this, as every saving of money destroys their prospect of imposing higher duties for protection.

We referred some days ago to the possible complication in legislation growing out of that provision of the State Constitution forbidding the revival or amendment of any law without reciting at large in the new law the law or part of law revived or amended. Judge MCALLISTER, in private conversation at Springfield, having suggested that there might be some question as to the constitutionality of laws passed without a rigid compliance with this provision, the Committee on the Judiciary have investigated the subject, and Mr. CONNOLLY, of Coles County, has prepared a report on the very important matter. As we understand it, there are two interpretations placed on the requirement of the Constitution. The first requires that, when a law is amended by the change, say of Sec. 5, the amendatory act shall recite Sec. 5 as it stood in the original law, and then set forth Sec. 5 as amended. The second interpretation is, that to amend Sec. 5, all that is necessary is to recite that Sec. 5 of the act named is hereby amended so as to read as follows,—setting it forth in full as proposed to be amended. It is understood that Judge MCALLISTER suggested that the first of these methods was the only constitutional one. The House Committee have unanimously reached the conclusion that the second interpretation is the true one. The Committee fortify their judgment by a review of the judicial decisions of the courts in the several States where similar provisions are in the Constitutions, and where precisely this same question has been raised. All these decisions have been to the effect that a re-enactment of the amended section or law is a full compliance with the constitutional requirement, and that it is not necessary to set forth the law as it originally stood, in addition to the amendment which is set forth in full. This certainly seems to be the common sense view of the matter, and is doubtless in accordance with the intention of the Constitutional Convention.

THE TURNER-HALL DISCUSSION.

The sermon which was preached by the Rev. ROBERT COLLYER a few Sundays ago, in which he took occasion to give the Chicago German Turner Hall and its Sunday music a handsome commendation, has served to arouse a very interesting and somewhat general discussion of the merits and demerits of the music question, which promises good results. In his original sermon, it will be remembered that Mr. COLLYER gave Turner Hall an unqualified indorsement. It is a little surprising that none of the strictly evangelical clergymen locked horns with him on this point. The Rev. Dr. RYDER, a Universalist, however, and a radical prohibitionist, stepped into the gap, and, after vehemently condemning the Sunday sacred-concert entertainments at that place as an agency of Satan (if Satan has a place in the Doctor's theology), asked the Rev. COLLYER some very leading questions, among them one to the effect that, if he thought Turner Hall such a proper place, why did he not go there himself?

Dr. RYDER was followed by Mr. W. S. B. MATHEWS, the organist, of this city, who took up the question from a general musical point of view, and proceeded to argue that the absence of the intellectual quality in music rendered its sensuous qualities all the more subtle and dangerous, since "music exerts this influence, if at all, upon those so delicately organized as to be thrown by it into a delightful revery whose real meaning they have no disposition to inquire, and, if inquiring, could find the answer only in the kind of activity it chiefly suggested." Having stated this general fact, he applied it to the Turner-Hall music, seeking to show that it was dangerous because of the absence of the intellectual and the superfluity of the sensuous in the programmes. In last Sunday's TRIBUNE, however, Mr. BALATKA rather neatly strips Mr. MATHEWS' argument of its application by showing that the Turner-Hall programmes have been mainly characterized by intellectual music, and that the simply sensuous has played a very small part in the numbers. The general fact enunciated by Mr. MATHEWS is also lightly but very aptly touched upon by Mr. BALATKA. He says: "Dancing music is expressive of pleasure, of cheerfulness, or even of paroxysmal joy, if you please; and, since these things exist in our nature, their expression may be permitted to exist in music also." On Sunday last ROBERT COLLYER returned to the subject and delivered a very eloquent discourse upon "All Kinds of Music." After showing the character of music, its influence, power, aims, and aspirations, he concludes that "just so far as this bright, pure spirit is dragged down out of her proper sphere and made to do drudgery, we must so far deplore the fact, but it is probable we shall deplore it in the measure in which we are blind to the truth, that in spite of all our trying to make her serve our meaner ends, she is still doing and will do her own peerless work, and helping more than one can hinder." It is this view which he applies to the Turner-Hall music, and says:

> While I have made no secret of my conviction that the great mass of our fellow citizens, as they are now situated, will drink something and smoke, perhaps either for good or bad reason, which, as I notice, is generally good to the smoker, so I would give the best chance to that which is the most harmless, and by all means do away with lying about it; still, I deplore the fact that there should be any evil mixed with the good of noble music, there or anywhere. But with the evil, and far above it, in my conviction, is the good. . . . I say that to go to Turner Hall for the music and the music alone, as you would go, to a good and noble thing in itself, while to sit there in a quiet reparation from these baser things, as an American gentleman, is to set an example others will be led to follow.

Mr. COLLYER has made an ingenious defense for Turner Hall, and fortifies it with the announcement that he is "going there, which will enable him hereafter to speak from actual personal observation, which neither he nor Dr. RYDER have yet had. Without committing ourselves to either side, we may mention three facts which Mr. COLLYER will find upon such a visit: 1. That the audiences are as proper and quiet and well-behaved as any audiences in the city, whatever the character of the occasion. No disturbance has ever occurred in this hall in our recollection. 2. The audience is made up almost entirely of the respectable classes of our German citizens. 3. The attraction of beer, wine, and smoking is not nearly as great as that of the music. Turner Hall could not be sustained with poor programmes or poor performances. This has been tested repeatedly, and whenever the character of the performances has deteriorated Turner Hall has l

...when the Government ...to be falling short ...on the people are pay... ...an afford, and when ...usiness is difficult to as... ...rime, to invest pub... ...nts of a future and ...resent unproductive. ...e spots where Con... ...ithout any special in... ...t, we hazard the be... ...ices named might be ...together with the ...h, without doing the ...interests of the pub... ...torneys in Congress ...s" would not con... ...aving of money de... ...imposing higher du...

...ago to the possible ...on growing out of ...te Constitution for... ...amendment of any ...rge in the new law ...evived or amended. ...e conversation at ...ist there might ...constitutionality ...gid compliance ...mittee on the ...e subject, and ...County, has prepared ...portant matter. As ...are two interpreta... ...ent of the Con... ...that, when a ...say of Sec. 5, ...Sec. 5 as it ...hen set forth ...second inter... ...amend. Sec. 5, ...is to recite that ...hereby amended so ...it forth in full ...t is understood ...sted that the ...only constitu... ...committee have ...conclusion that the ...the true one. The ...udgment by a review ...of the courts in the ...provisions are in ...precisely this ...All these de... ...that a re-enact... ...tion or law is a full ...institutional require... ...ecessary to set forth ...ood, in addition to ...forth in full. ...common sense ...btless in accord... Constitutional

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...ered open to at least one denomination, and not remain hereafter the exclusive property of the "worldlings."

PERSONAL.

The P. S. GILMORE band arrived yesterday at the Grand Pacific.

Mme. JANAUSCHEK and troupe are stopping at the Sherman House.

EX-Senator MATT H. CARPENTER, of Wisconsin, passed through this city yesterday on his way to Washington.

GUSTAV DORE, the well-known French artist, is seriously ill in Paris.

And this is literary fame: to write "The Earthly Paradise," and be called WILLIAM MORRIS in the New York *Sun*.

MARTIN CAMPBELL, proprietor of the Metropolitan Theatre, New York, has been arrested and is on trial for running a can-can show.

The Rev. H. D. MOORE, pastor of the Springfield (Ill.) Congregational Church, tendered his resignation Sunday last, to take effect May 1.

Gov. PENNINGTON, of Dakota, left Sioux City yesterday for Washington on Territorial business. He will stop over a day or two in Chicago.

A Washington man who was treated to a "25-center" slipped back to the cigar-store, the other day, and economically exchanged it for "three for a quarter."

It may interest admirers of TENNYSON to know that ENOCH ARDEN is in jail at Lansing, Ia., for kicking furniture about. His wife don't care a fillip for anybody else, either.

ALVAN CLARKE, the Cambridge telescope-maker, has two heavy commissions—one for the Austrian Government and one for California, the latter the gift of JAMES LICK.

TALMAGE wants the President to appoint a fast-day. A fast horse is more in his line; but if TALMAGE wants to diet himself on fish-balls for ten months, nobody will interfere with him.

BERGH is on his travels, among the paragraphists, charged with having caused a man's imprisonment for killing a cat, and thus starving to death the prisoner's wife and three children.

Mr. ALEXANDER XERNUS, of Dunn's Lake, Fla., has found skeletons of a by-gone race in the mounds on his plantation 9 feet long, and, what is of more importance to Mr. XERNUS, traces of gold also.

The most successful Samaritan's Home is in the City of New York, of which Mrs. ROSALIA GOODMAN is the matron. She has eighty inmates, all fallen female felines, reclaimed from the gutter, rescued from the sausage-shop, to lead useful lives and learn the beauty of silence and virtue.

Life-insurance seems to be popular in Boston. The *Herald* of that city enumerates the following policies held there: by Mr. ALBERT T. B. AMES, for $106,000; by NATHANIEL J. BRADLEE, for $100,000; by GUSTAVUS A. JASPER and BENJAMIN F. STURTEVANT, for $100,000 each; and by RUFUS A. WILLIS, for $80,000.

GRANVILLE STUART, of Deer Lodge, Montana, suspecting cold weather, sent to New York for a fine spirit thermometer. To his surprise it never marked more than 30 degrees below, and then he found that was its utmost limit. He says it will do for a summer thermometer, but is too short by 48 inches for a Montana winter.

There is a clergyman in Worcester, Mass., whose name is PARRY, and a committee of his church have requested the Worcester *Press* to stop reporting his pulpit-discourses. The *Press* agrees to this petition. "While the BEECHER-TILTON trial continues"—such is the judgment of the editor—"there is no need of publishing Mr. PARRY's sermons."

Glasgow is going to erect a monument to LIVINGSTONE in the form of an industrial mission settlement at the south end of Lake Nyassa. Half of the sum of £10,000 needed for the enterprise was raised at the first meeting. The station is to be put under the charge of Mr. E. D. YOUNG, B. N., who commanded the LIVINGSTONE search expedition.

Here is a warning to amateur actors, especially oportune: Mr. C. T. HALL, a young gentleman of Baltimore, was playing in "The Robbers" with Mr. CHARLES POPE and Miss DE FORREST. He had to fire a gun at the lady, and did so, pulling the trigger three minutes too soon. The suddenness of the shock brought down his game, considerably singed, and his reception thereafter was cool.

And now JOSH HART turns round and swears that BOUCICAULT's "Shaughraun" is pirated from a play called "Skibbeckk," of which he owns the copyright. He turns the tables on his foe by threatening to prosecute him for piracy. Both plays were taken from "Pyke O'Callaghan," an Irish drama written by WYBERT REEVE, which was performed at the Surrey Theatre, London, Feb. 7, 1870.

A widow lady of Quincy, named WELSH, died, and her friends received an order for interment in the Catholic cemetery from Father MCGEER. When the funeral reached the cemetery, the grave had only been dug to a depth of six inches, and they left the coffin out all night. The local papers speak feelingly of the thinness of the shell, and the intense cold of the night, as combining to make poor Mrs. WELSH supremely uncomfortable.

LOUISE LATHAU, the Belgian stigmatist, whose pretensions have lately excited so much controversy in the Rhenish Provinces, has been offered 30,000 francs on condition of subjecting herself to supervision for eight days. It was promised this sum would be paid to her if, having tasted nothing but that consecrated water, her wounds were still found to bleed. She has taken no notice of the overture, the author of which is denounced by the Ultramontanes as an infidel or blasphemer, who wanted to starve the highly-favored virgin.

Miss ANNA DICKINSON is said to be about to make her debut on the stage in the character of *Joan of Arc*. In many respects the part is one admirably suited to Miss DICKINSON in genius. Still the fact cannot be concealed that the lady who plays *Joan of Arc* will naturally be compelled to wear skirts of a brevity which——. That is to say, there are peculiarities in the costume of the *Maid of Orleans* which make it very doubtful whether Miss DICKINSON can——. In short, we should like to ask Miss DICKINSON whether she really has that confidence in her own——? In other words, had she not better make her debut in full dress?—*New York Graphic*.

The Rev. Dr. LORD, of Montpelier, Vt., has a proper sense of "the fitness of things," as this, in a recent note to BOWEN, of the *Independent*, attests:

> Your note of the 27th inst., informing me that the *Independent* is sent to my address for the current year by donation of a merchant of your city, and requesting me to furnish to your paper "facts concerning my income, expenses, and peculiar situation," has come duly to hand. As I should not feel at liberty to disclose to the public press such facts as every gentleman prefers to keep private, I must decline your request. I would also suggest that it would be well to send the copy of the paper you now send me to some one who will value it sufficiently to exchange for it such personal items as you desire to secure for your readers. Permit me to indicate the name of H. W. BEECHER as a suitable substitute for mine, and a clergyman about whose "expenses and peculiar situation" the public could have the most lively interest.

It is quite intelligible that the Government of Norway is greatly opposed to the drain upon its bone and sinew caused by the emigration of the young men and women of the country. With the hope of finding the condition of Scandinavian immigrants to America sufficiently bad to act as an antidote to the ebb-tide of emigration, the Government sent a special commissioner named JONSEN GJERDRUM to the United States for the double purpose of inquiring into our railroad system and investigating the condition of Norwegian immigrants. Coming here prepared to report a state of affairs discouraging to emigration, Mr. GJERDRUM has suffered conversion. His observations on railroads have been of great service to him, but it is on the other point that he is most agreeably impressed. He finds the transplanted children, thanks to our excellent school system, far in advance, intellectually, of their cousins at home; and, as to their social standing and means of subsistence, their parents were proportionately more fortunate than their kinsmen in the mother country. Anxious to assure himself that the prosperity of his fellow-countrymen was not fictitious, and in order to be able from experience, to see how fast money could be made, he bought fifty-one copies of THE TRIBUNE, Sunday morning, at the rates they are furnished to newsboys, and, taking a position on Milwaukee avenue at an early hour, he disposed of all but one copy, thus realizing $1 profit in a couple of hours. The odd TRIBUNE and the $1-bill he will keep, frame, and glaze, and present it to his sovereign on returning to Norway. He is satisfied that in a city where money can be made so readily by peddling THE TRIBUNE nobody need starve who is content to work. He is between 70 and 80 years of age, in excellent health, and has with him a son of some 11 years of age, whom he will leave in Chicago with Dr. JULSON and the Norwegian Consul, to be educated on the American plan.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

Palmer House—C. T. Ransom; J. B. Edmonds, Iowa; A. Carno, W. H. Cottrell, Milwaukee; Thomas P. Potts, Salt Lake City; T. W. Gill, Boston; William A. Knowlton, Rockford; Gen. B. S. Alexander, U. S. A.; James A. Conley, Charleston; C. W. Reed, Pittsburg; B. D. Knapp, Utica; Charles Willard, Buffalo; W. A. Houghton, New York; E. J. Smallhurst, Boston; M. Pouney Legrargnes, Montpelier, France; J. W. Gould, Boston.....*Grand Pacific*—C. H. Jackson, Canton, O.; E. A. Le Feore, New York; S. Wilson, Alabama; J. P. Wood, Troy; R. R. Thomas, Salt Lake City; C. V. Hickox, Springfield; Frank Prior, Buffalo; Thad C. Pound, Wisconsin; R. H. Whiting, Peoria; G. O. Stevens, Boston; B. B. Babcock, Cleveland; A. E. Cox, Toledo; F. W. Kellogg, New York.....*Sherman House*—E. J. Hurlbut, Lake Superior; William Young, Milwaukee; J. K. Herrick, Austin; Frank Michael, St. Louis; C. L. Blood, New York; A. Cohen, New York; Judge Duff, Dunlap; G. M. Schaffer, Detroit; George M. Bowen, Joliet.....*Tremont House*—J. A. Nettleton, Bloomington; L. H. Lyford, Boston; J. G. Daggett, Boston; Jacob Meyer, Quincy; C. G. Burnett, Cleveland; J. C. Waterman, Syracuse; C. J. Hutchinson, California; George Devlin, Pittsburg; D. P. Jones, Ottawa; J. H. Gould, Belvidere; W. M. Wait, New York.

AMUSEMENTS.

THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

Mme. Janauschek commenced her engagement last evening at the Academy of Music, playing to a very fair house. The drama chosen for her first appearance was a version of "Bleak House" entitled "Chesney Wold." To call the piece a dramatization of the novel would be to give an altogether erroneous impression regarding it. The playwright has given little more than one incident, and has summarized as much of the story as was necessary for the development of that episode. He introduces us to the most important personages of the novel, and maintains much of their individuality, but he takes the liberty of making *Esther Summerson*, a waiting-maid of *Lady Dedlock*, which, though a legitimate alteration viewed from a dramatic standpoint, mars the symmetry of the story to the careful student of Dickens. Scanty as is the scope of the drama, however, it is the most successful of all the plays founded upon any of the works of the great author. "Bleak House" possesses many features attractive to the adaptor which none of its fellows contain. The story is written with great dramatic power; its characters are drawn with unswerving consistency; its incidents are striking; and the denouement is reached by a series of surprises which are all intensely forcible. The drama was written for Madame Janauschek, and doubtless it is to her wonderful intuition that the actress is much of the excellence of his work is for, gloomy, mournful, even terrible, as it is, in the reeling of inevitable fate which pursues the heroine of the story, it possesses an interest for all. The dramatist has introduced the two characters of *Lady Dedlock* and *Hortense*, her French maid, into the piece with consummate skill,—with a skill which indeed cannot be rated high, and will only serve for the theme of an essay. They are introduced to *Lady Dedlock*, silent, haughty, self-contained, self-convicted, self-executed almost, and the next scene brings us face to face with a character no less remarkable in its intensity. The woman of the fashionable world and the vindictive servant are played against one another with a power which cannot be described. The perfect analysis which the artist has made of both characters is something to admire; the representation of the dual role is worthy of more than admiration. The careful reader of Dickens will recognize in the fleeting scenes in which both personages appear such a vivid portraiture as filled his imagination, and made the unaided scenes of the novel stand out as though they had actually been represented upon the stage. In no few minutes which the exigencies of the case give for remarks upon the acting of this peerless artist, it would be absurd to attempt anything more than a mere general characterization, and that necessarily vague and imperfect, but the impression left upon the mind is that there is no artist upon the whole American stage who can stand in the presence of this majestic actress. Some two years ago, Charlotte Cushman, with a candor only too rare among members of her profession, in a published interview, said that when she had retired from the stage, the American people would find no difficulty in recognizing its monarch in "Mme. Janauschek." She said, "possesses genius which you must not forget. She has natural advantages which I never had, and she is a superb artist." It was a generous tribute from one great artist to another, and it was untinged with any self-consciousness. Those who were fortunate enough to see Mme. Janauschek last night in her assumption of the rôle of *Lady Dedlock*, and the oldest dressed with one fact, and that was the measureless tragic force she exerted in repose. Akin to this was the effect of her action, which suggested passion which the tones of her voice seemed to smother. Throughout the entire performance, except when, alone, she gave way for a moment to the irrepressible instinct of maternal love, and the audience was given a glimpse of the infernal fires which consumed her, her voice was not raised above a pitch which might be called an audible whisper. Her voice conveyed as little as possible. The passion was uttered in her features and occasionally in action, but the force thus suggested was agonizing. In the rôle of *Hortense* an entirely different set of emotions were portrayed by much the same methods. The difference between the icy aristocrat and the vulgar servant was so marvelously depicted as to carry the audience to a pitch of excitement we have never seen equaled. The points of "make-up," accent, and appearance were covered so completely as almost to be matters of course. Secondary considerations which could not have been otherwise. In a word, her double rôle was one of the most memorable dramatic performances this city has ever been privileged to exhibit.

The support given by Mme. Janauschek's company was extremely creditable. The *Joe* of Mr. Shine was a most pathetic and moving piece of character acting, and, with the *Twistingboys* of Mr. Bradley, deserved to be included in the same caste with Mme. Janauschek, as bearing the same relation to the ideal of the author as her own representations. It is singular, by the way, and suggestive of the ephemeral character of the actors' art, that Mr. Bradley met with no reception at all from the audience, and yet it is only a few years since he was one of the favorite actors on the stage of this city. The *Bucket* of Mr. Chaplin was a clever and consistent picture, but was not the *Bucket* of Dickens. The same may be said of Mr. Sefton's *Guppy*, which was marred by a transparent effort at low comedy, which took advantage of nearly every bit of low comedy "business" possible under the circumstances, from the saw-dust ring upwards. Miss Kate Fletcher should have had a welcome, but the audience did not appear to recognize her as the ex-leading lady of the Academy. She played *Esther Summerson* very nicely, and that was all she had to do. Mr. Ashton, as Powers, the dunkey, was deserving of praise, but his costume was imperfect. The cast as a whole was strong, and the piece moved with automatic accuracy from the rise of the curtain to the fall thereof.

To-night "Deborah," Mme. Janauschek's version of "Leah," will be given. "Deborah," was the original title of Mr. Bateman's play until Mr. Daly "adapted" it, and got the credit of writing it.

There is one suggestion which the performance of last evening makes it imperative to emphasize, and that is the banishment of "slow-music." There were occasions when the orchestra, even under Mr. Loesch's competent leadership, drowned the utterances of Mme. Janauschek. If the strains of the orchestra cannot be modified, they ought to be hushed entirely, and the latter alternative would be the more grateful to the audience.

THE GILMORE CONCERTS.

Gilmore's Twenty-second New York Regiment Band gave its first concert last evening at the Union Park Congregational Church, with a small audience in attendance compared with the audiences Mr. Gilmore has been accustomed to draw in this city. He has brought a brass and reed band of about forty-five pieces, out of which a small orchestra is picked for the accompaniments to the vocal numbers. There are several faces in the band which have been familiar here in times gone by in Theodore Thomas' orchestra. Of the old Boston Band there is but one representative, Mr. Arbuckle, who heads the brasses with his effective cornet. The programme for the band was constructed of popular music, including the two Weber overtures, "Oberon" and "Der Freischuetz," and his "Invitation to the Dance," selections from "The Prophet," and Mozart's operas, mainly "Don Giovanni," "The Magic Flute," and "Nozze de Figaro," and Meyerbeer's Schiller March, and these were led by Mr. Gilmore himself, brave in his new regimentals, and his musical breast blazing with medals. The band is a very effective one, well balanced and well put together, and is peculiarly excellent in its phrasing and expression. The quartette of saxophones, with their smooth, rich tone, add much to the effect of the playing, and give to it that peculiar refinement which was so noticeable in the French Band that was here a few years ago, and came to grief through the want of refinement of Steiner. The soloists of the band are Mr. Arbuckle, who played the aria of De Beriot, and "Robin Adair" for an encore to it, with all his old quality of tone and skill of execution, and M. Lefevre a former member of the French Band, who plays the saxophone, an instrument which is comparatively new here. It is a brass instrument with a reed, having somewhat the quality of the bass clarionet, although much smoother and richer in its tone. The four saxophones in the full band in fact almost produce the effect of strings. M. Lefebre's mastery of the instrument, which is as exceedingly difficult one to play, is very complete, and the fantasie of his own composition which he played was well received. The vocalist of the company is Miss Emma C. Thursby, a young lady of New York, who, we understand, has but recently returned from her European studies, and who is almost without exception the most promising young singer who has ever appeared here. She has a high soprano voice, of beautiful and even quality, and of delightful freshness and purity, trained in an excellent method, and possessed of remarkable sympathy. To these very desirable qualities she adds very facile and graceful execution, as was shown in the brilliant French variations, and Bishop's "Echo Song." For the encore to the first number she gave "The Last Rose of Summer" without any addition or flourish, making it all the more effective simply by clear enunciation and perfectly smooth, sympathetic singing. She is a singer of most brilliant promise, and we predict will yet be heard from in something more important than a regimental band concert.

The second concert will be given this evening at McCormick's Hall. The programme is printed elsewhere.

McVICKER'S.

At McVicker's Theatre the attraction was Charlotte Cushman as *Meg Merrilies*. It is only necessary in regard to this performance to say that the talented actress was very warmly received by the audience, who throughout the piece marked their appreciation of her wonderful acting by their hearty applause. Notwithstanding the strong counter attractions elsewhere, the house was a very fair one.

HOOLEY'S.

In consequence of the continued sickness of Miss Hawthorne, the play of "Bleo of the Day" was substituted for that of "Dora," which had been billed for yesterday evening's performance at Hooley's Theatre.

THE WEATHER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 15.—For the Lake regions, stationary and rising temperature, westerly winds, increasing cloudiness, and local snows, with rising barometer over the Lower Lakes, but a slight fall on the Upper Lakes.

LOCAL OBSERVATION S.

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.

Time.	Bar.	Ther.	Hu.	Wind.	Rain	Wther.
6:53 a. m.	30.53	—6	61	S. W., fresh	.....	Clear.
11:16 a. m.	30.53	7	79	W., fresh	.....	Clear.
2:00 p. m.	30.49	11	79	S. W., fresh	.....	Fair.
3:53 p. m.	30.48	12	61	S. W., fresh	.....	Clear.
9:00 p. m.	30.46	6	85	S. W., fresh	.....	Clear.
10:18 p. m.	30.46	5	85	W., fresh	.....	Clear.

Maximum thermometer, 12; minimum, —9.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.

Station.	Bar.	Ther.	Wind.	Rain	Weather.
Cairo	30.53	26	N. E., gentle	.....	Cloudy.
Cincinnati	30.10	16	N. W., gentle	.....	Cloudy.
Chicago	30.48	6	W., fresh	.....	Clear.
Cheyenne	30.04	25	S. W., gentle	.....	Clear.
Cleveland	30.42	3	W., fresh	.....	Clear.
Detroit	30.41	2	W., gentle	.....	Clear.
Denver	30.12	28	N. W., fresh	.....	Clear.
Davenport	30.57	—2	W., fresh	.....	Clear.
Duluth	30.60	—1	N. W., brisk	.....	Clear.
Escanaba	30.56	—10	Calm	.....	Clear.
Fort Garry	30.36	1	W., fresh	.....	Clear.
Milwaukee	30.47	2	W., fresh	.....	Clear.
LaCrosse	30.51	2	S. W., gentle	.....	Clear.
Omaha	30.58	4	Calm	.....	Foggy.
Richmond	30.31	38	S. E., fresh	.....	Fair.
Keokuk	30.52	11	Calm	.....	Fair.
Leavenworth	30.42	24	N. W., gentle	.....	Cloudy.
Fort Garry	29.30	—15	S., gentle	.....	Fair.
Ft. Gibson	30.43	31	N. W., gentle	.....	Cloudy.
Toledo	30.35	7	S. W., fresh	.....	Clear.
Yankton	30.50	—6	N., light	.....	Fair.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

FORT WAYNE, Ind., Feb. 15.—The weather continues extremely cold, the thermometer marking 22 degrees below zero at 6 o'clock this morning. On the Grand Rapids & Saginaw Railroad the running of freight trains is wholly suspended, and all passenger trains are delayed from six to fourteen hours. The first passenger train through from Grand Rapids since the heavy snow-storm last week reached this city to-day.

Special Correspondence of The Chicago Tribune.

BENTON HARBOR, Mich., Feb. 15.—The coldest weather of the season occurred here on Tuesday of this week. The minimum temperature at various points in this vicinity was as follows: Benton Harbor, 19 deg.; St. Joseph, 22; Fair Plain (formerly Heath's Corners), 12; Spring Vale, 18; Millburg (at C. C. Sutton's), 23; Lake Shore, north of Fair Plain, 17, from 5 to 10. It is impossible as yet to tell whether the fruit has been seriously injured. Some who have thawed the limbs of peaches by the fire report half the buds in good condition. This is no test, but, if true, the fruit prospects are better than with a full crop. It is a great mistake to suppose that a certain degree of cold kills fruit under all circumstances. Two years ago the mercury fell to 24 at Fair Plain, and yet they had peaches. The buds were in good condition to stand the cold, and were frozen hard previous to the cold of Tuesday. On Monday the mercury stood 28 below at Grand Rapids and Saginaw.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

SIOUX CITY, Ia., Feb. 15.—The Illinois Central Company, after nearly a week's blockade, got the Iowa Division of their road cleared of snow for the passage of trains yesterday. The Sioux City & St. Paul Road got a train through from St. Paul on Friday night, but are again drifted in, and to-day trains on the Western Division are suspended. Other roads terminating here are running on time.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

DUBUQUE, Ia., Feb. 15.—The snow-banks have been conquered on all the Western roads, and trains run direct to Sioux City. The cost of running the iron blockade from the Iowa division of the Illinois Central and branch lines is estimated at $12,000, paid principally for the hire and board of laborers.

NEW ALBANY, Feb. 15.—The floating ice in the river, which has almost impeded navigation in the Lower Ohio for the past week or ten days, is now running much lighter, and, no doubt, within the next twenty-four hours we may look for a fine, clear river, with navigation fully resumed.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

JOLIET, Ill., Feb. 15.—The thermometer stood 23 below at daylight here this morning.

THE NATIONAL GRANGE.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Feb. 15.—In the National Grange to-day the report of the Committee on Relief was considered, and so much of the report as disapproved of the granting of future charitable donations out of the funds of the National Grange was stricken out. This action authorizes the proposed appropriation for the relief of Nebraska and Kansas.

Resolutions were adopted for a final adjournment to-morrow; also, of thanks to citizens of Charleston, were unanimously adopted. These resolutions declare that the National Grange hails with delight the many expressions of sentiment met with in Charleston, and believing them to be the evidences of a mutual return of good feeling and harmony between the different sections of the country.

FUNERAL OF M. L. DUNLAP.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

CHAMPAIGN, Ill., Feb. 15.—The Methodist Episcopal Church, of this city, was densely crowded to-day, many being unable to gain admission with the many friends and relatives of the Hon M. L. Dunlap, whose sudden death so surprised and pained this community yesterday morning. An excellent sermon was delivered by the Rev. McElroy, after which the remains were conducted to Mount Hope Cemetery, and interred with Masonic ceremonies.

LECTURES.

Charles Bradlaugh on the French Revolution.

The Causes Which Led to That Great Upheaval.

A. Bronson Alcott Discourses on Culture.

The Great Superiority of the Ideal—It Is an Entity.

Mystical Responses to Queries.

THE FRENCH REVOLUTION.

LECTURE BY CHARLES BRADLAUGH.

Mr. Charles Bradlaugh delivered his eloquent lecture on "The French Revolution" before a large audience at McCormick's Hall last evening. The lecturer, at the outset, said that it would be impossible for him to deal with a subject so immense in the limit of a single discourse. He would, therefore, confine himself to the period dating from the death of Louis XV., in 1774, to the death of his grandson and successor, Louis XVI., in 1793. The former monarch died leaving to his descendant a legacy of debt, degradation, and general poverty on the part of the nation. The nobles and the Church were everything and the people nothing. The Parliament of France was simply a matter of form, held in different parts of the Kingdom, in which only the nobles and the churchmen had anything approaching a fair representation. The nobles elected their own representatives; the clergy did theirs; and then, the two orders combined, elected, or selected, two-thirds of the members of the third estate. For 170 years the States General had not regularly assembled in France, until the reign of Louis XVI., and then, when they did meet, they only met to impose fresh taxes upon the people.

The latter were in a state of utter serfdom. No less than 1,500,000 grown men of France were body-serfs of the King and the nobles at the period of the Revolution. The nobles claimed exemption from taxation on account of the privileges of their order; the Church claimed exemption on the ground that they were the trustees of the poor; and the two privileged classes combined to plunder the third estate, who soon, by the way, had nothing left to be plundered of.

The speaker then proceeded to describe the assembly of the French Parliament, and gave a vivid picture of the first Legislature in which the people dared to put on their hats before the King. Louis XVI. made his speech, in which he promised to do all he could for France, and put on his plumed hat. Then the nobles put on their hats, and the third estate ventured to cover their heads. Immediately there were cries of "Hats off, gentlemen!" but no hat was put on, and, finally, to quell the tumult, the King removed his chapeau, which settled matters for that time. The last time the third estate met with the nobles and the clergy they were upon their knees, but a new spirit had been breathed into France—from the days of Rabelais to those of Rousseau. Indeed, the Government did all that lay in its power to prevent the spread of such doctrines as these writers sent forth broadcast to the nation. The brightest intellects of France were imprisoned in the Bastile, but not all the stone walls, or all the bars that kings and jailers could contrive, could quell the spirit of liberty when once it was thoroughly aroused.

The French Government saw the people starving and heard their wails, but no heed was paid to them. The people had been educated to believe that they were in the world simply for the purpose of performing certain duties for the benefit of their superiors. They were taught that it was their duty to pay taxes, to till the lands whose produce it was not theirs to enjoy; to fight—to do everything but to have a part in the government of the country whose bone and sinew they were. In fact, they had begun to believe that their natural condition was to be ignorant, half-naked, and ignorant. The mocking genius of Voltaire and the blunt teachings of Rousseau let in a little light upon the generation of 1789. The people of the third estate began to believe that they, too, had some rights in France. The nobles and the churchmen insisted in voting by orders, which gave them two to one majority over the people, even though the latter were more numerously represented in the Parliament. But in 1789 the knees of Frenchmen had become too stiff for kneeling, and they boldly protested against the exemption of the nobles and the Church from taxation. A little struggle ensued, in which the Lords and Dukes consented to be taxed a little, but the churchmen utterly refused, for, were they not the custodians of the poor, and had they not guarded it with a fidelity so great that the poor never got any of it? The vote by orders was protested against by the people, and finally the nobles and the clergy refused to meet with them, all but ten poor curates who had nothing to lose, and could therefore afford to be generous.

Mr. Bradlaugh gave graphic sketches of Talleyrand, Sieyes, Mirabeau, Danton, Robespierre, and Philip Egalite, Duc d'Orleans, whom he characterized as one of the meanest men ever France produced—never in earnest, never thorough, never honest, ever vacillating,—features that distinguished the House of Orleans down to the present day.

Of Mirabeau, as an orator, he spoke in terms of boundless praise, and only wondered that he who was so mighty in the tribune, so great with the people, so true in his public capacity, could be so weak and false in his private life. After the first outcry did not consist in the mere truth of words, in the beauty of expression, in the smooth flow of the silvery accents,—but in the thrilling power of sterling honesty and heartfelt truth, which, breathed from the patriot mouth, kindled the heart of the nation, and stirred the slumbering revolution into a quenchless flame before which thrones and crowns withered or melted into their original nothingness.

He did not concur in the opinion of many brilliant writers that the French Revolution was all crime. The blood that was shed might justly be laid to the charge of the tyrannical and stupid Bourbon Kings, who always refused concessions until too late. The great Revolution was but the bursting fourth of a long pent-up volcano. The Court of Versailles paid no attention to the cries and sufferings of the people, although they were starving in the streets of Paris. When the third estate, with whom the nobles and the clergy refused to sit, formed themselves into the National Assembly, the King ordered the doors of their hall to be locked, and they were obliged to hold their sessions afterward in an old tennis court at Versailles. Then the eloquence of Mirabeau and the other leaders of the revolution was thundered to the people, and that storm commenced to rise when ended in the destruction of the Bastile.

Mr. Bradlaugh most eloquently described the attack made by the people on that celebrated fortress July 13 and 14, 1789; the fraternizing with them of three regiments of the Garde Francaise; the cutting of the chains of the draw-bridge by a daring revolutionist; the entry into the court-yard, and the massacre of the Swiss guards; the tearing down of the great prison stone by stone, although the walls were 9 feet, until not even a piece of the foundation was left, and the rest of the excitement attendant upon that celebrated event.

The noise of that firing was heard at Versailles, and the courtiers said, "It is a revolt." But somebody answered, "No, Sire, it is a revolution!" and it was. A revolt was but the bearing of the waters of the dam upon a certain point of the structure until it gave way—a revolution carried away not alone the dam itself, but also the posts and flood-gates. That was the way with the French Revolution. It left not a mark of the Bourbon dynasty behind. The lecturer next dwelt upon the terror of the King at the turn affairs had taken; the march of the people on Versailles; the flight of the King for safety to some place remote from the royal residence, without even leaving orders to the unfortunate Swiss Guards, who, foolishly firing upon the people, were slaughtered to a man; the capture of the King, and his march to Paris with the people, who placed him in the Tuileries; his swearing to respect the new Constitution of France in the Champ de Mars, while his brother, the Comte d'Artois, was bargaining with the Russians, Prussians, English, Austrians—in fact all Europe—to march upon Paris, and strangle liberty at its birth. Then came the flight of the King, Queen, and Royal Family to Varennes, where they were overhauled and brought back to Paris; the trial, sentence, and execution of Louis XVI., which the orator denounced as a blunder, because, generally speaking, there was not enough valor in a King's head to justify his decapitation, and much more connected with the great tragedy of the eighteenth century. He denounced the sentimentalism that would drop a tear on the grave of the dead monarch, who, however, fell a victim not so much to crimes perpetrated by himself, as to those committed by his ancestors.

Mr. Bradlaugh defended the character of Robespierre, who was, he said, naturally merciful and of strict honesty, but a weak in character, placed in a position where he lost his balance, and struck down men whom a bolder and a stronger man would have passed over with the contempt they merited.

Finally, he held that the frenzy of the Reign of Terror was not so much born of France herself as of the European coalition formed against her liberties. The Duke of Brunswick and his hirelings, England and her gold, Austria and her armies, were responsible for the torrents of blood which were shed in that sanguinary struggle.

Mr. Bradlaugh touched briefly on the land revolution in France, and hinted that something of a similar nature in Great Britain would be the right thing for the people of that country. He said a word of eulogy on Tom Paine, and did not forget Danton, whose motto, "L'audace, l'audace, toujours l'audace," he would like to imitate. The defiance of France to banded Europe had been uttered by that famous leader when he said the young Republic hurled at their feet the head of a King.

Mr. Bradlaugh concluded amid great applause.

THE IDEAL.

Lecture by A. Bronson Alcott.

Mr. Bronson Alcott's lecture last evening at the Palmer House was based upon the theory that ideals are entities, and the idealists are really the practical people of the age. Subordinate to this subject were many other thoughts, the subject of culture, both physical and mental, being dwelt upon, in regard to physical culture, he thought it inadvisable to attempt to blend extremes. If the dark and the fair came together as types, then there would be no harmony. He seemed to consider the blonde types as the more harmonious, and the brunette as the strongest, having the most force. In support of this he suggested what the result would probably be of a union between Hercules and the same type in woman, and Apollo with the other lady, whom he would not name, but whom every lady would think of.

He said all present could decide whence they originally came, blue eyes having their ancestry in Scandinavia, black eyes in the Orient, and although all types were much blended now, still it was possible to trace them. He preferred also to say "rising in love" instead of "falling in love." He thought no one ever fell in love.

In speaking of conversation, he decided that harmonious people conversed, while those who were not, argued, debated, quarreled, gossiped, and otherwise talked.

Good manners were the result of a beautiful unconsciousness, while conventional manners were those which were learned. Good manners were not learned. Woman is manners, and her influence over man makes him mannerly, so long as she was discreet. When she ceased to be that she was no longer a woman, but went over to the other side. Babies' manners were good if they were idealists, but the moment any conventional teaching by some aunt, or grandma, or mother commenced, then the manners were spoiled.

With the love of beauty came a charm of manners, and by this, or the expression of some beautiful thought, plain people were often made beautiful. Our affections, thoughts, and ideas were constantly making us more beautiful or degrading us, but whoever was beautiful commanded love. The most ambitious people were the most beautiful, while imperious, wilful women should be black as Erebus. As soon as beauty was born, culture began.

The idealists were built over the eyes, the materialists from behind. Darwin and Swedenborg were both reaching the same conclusion, but Darwin was arguing from the materialist's side, while Swedenborg and others were arguing from the side of mind. Darwin began at the bottom, and arrived at man; there he stopped. Idealists started at God and went down to nothing, which was the correct way. Conversation could not be kept up, nor can people live in communities because they were not acquainted with themselves.

Idealists had the best of it. They sat in the clouds and viewed the world below, and, though they got the reputation of being useless, and it was said of them that they did not know enough to earn a dollar, still they were the practical people. They created the ideas, and it was their ideas which were worked out. The beautiful image which the sculptor gives to the world, existed before it was cast in clay, and the bridge was built in the architect's mind before the timber was hewn or the stone quarried.

In regard to duties, he thought things done from a sense of duty without love or a desire to do them, were not done, they were merely sped. To be complete, the will must go with the work. He thought it a beautiful thing to have been born in the wilderness and

MONEY AND COMMERCE

FINANCIAL.

The business of the banks for the day was somewhat interrupted by the tardiness of the Eastern mails, which were several hours behind time. The main activity was in counter business.

The loan market exhibits the same features that have characterized it for the last fortnight. The demand for loans from mercantile sources is light; there is quite an amount of the paper of small traders offered, and as most of it is good it is readily taken. A noticeable number of applications for loans have been made by whisky-dealers, who want to pay the tax on spirits in store before the new tax bill passes. There is not so heavy a demand as at the beginning of the month from the Board of Trade men for funds to carry stuff.

On the street, there is no trouble in placing at advantageous rates all the paper offered. The only complaint heard from brokers is that there is not enough first-class paper offering. There is but little speculative paper in the market; a great deal of it would be made, if it were not so well known that lenders will not take it. Rates are 7@18 per cent.

The shipments of currency to the country are not large, and are not quite equal to the receipts.

New York Exchange was sold at 80c to $1 discount between banks for $1,000.

Currency was received here from from New York.

The clearings were $3,000,000.

The North Carolina Senate has passed the usury bill providing for a forfeiture of the whole amount where an excess of 8 per cent interest is charged for loans. The Charlotte *Observer* says: "We heard the President of one of the Charlotte banks remark, a few days ago, if the Legislature passed a stringent usury law, not a merchant in Charlotte could get over the financial crash that would inevitably come, as the banks would certainly call in all their money."

GOVERNMENT BONDS.

	Bid.	Asked.
United States 6s of '81	119½	119¾
United States 5-20s of '62	118	118½
United States 5-20s of '64	117¼	117½
United States 5-20s of '65	119½	119¾
5-20s of '65—Jan. and July	118¾	118¾
5-20s of '67—Jan. and July	119¼	119¾
5-20s of '68—Jan. and July	119½	119¾
10-40s	116¾	117¼
United States new 5s of '81	114¾	115¾
United States currency 6s	119	

Gold was 114½@114¾.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE.

Sterling exchange was 484@487; cable transfers, London, 492; Paris, 510. Other rates of foreign exchange are quoted:

Paris (francs)	512½@515¾
Germany (reichmarks)	94½@ 95¼
Belgium (francs)	512½@515¾
Holland (guilders)	41¾@ 41¾
Switzerland (francs)	512½@515¾
Sweden, Norway, and Denmark (kroner)	27¼
Austria (paper florins)	44¾

CITY AND COUNTY BONDS.

	Bid.	Asked.
Chicago City 7 ₰ ct. bonds	101¼ & int.	102¼ & int.
Chicago City 7 ₰ ct., sewerage	101¼ & int.	102¼ & int.
Chicago City 7 ₰ ct. water loan	101¼ & int.	102¼ & int.
Chicago City 7 ₰ ct. certificates	98½ & int.	
Chicago City 6 ₰ ct. certificates	95 & int.	
Cook County 7 ₰ ct. bonds	101¼ & int.	102¼ & int.
West Park 7 ₰ ct. bonds		93 & int.

BANK STOCKS.

	Bid.	Asked.
Merchants' National	235	
First National Bank	160	163¾
Fifth National Bank	125	127½
Commercial National Bank	160	162¾
Bowmen's National Bank	127	130
Corn Exchange National Bank	127	127½
City National Bank	135	
Home National Bank		100
National Bank of Illinois		100
Illinois Trust and Savings Bank		108
National Bank of Commerce		100
Merchants' Savings, L. & T. Co.		155
Union National Bank		150
Union Stock-Yard National	150	

MISCELLANEOUS.

	Bid.	Asked.
City Railway, South Side	130	140
City Railway, West Side		125
City Railway, North Side	96	
Traders' Insurance Company	108	110
Chamber of Commerce	80	90
Chicago Gaslight and Coke Co	125	130
Chicago & Northwestern gold bonds	81	82
Exposition Stock		50

LATEST.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Money, 5. Prime mercantile paper, 6@8.

Sterling weak; 483@483½ for sixty days, and 486@ 486½ for sight.

Customs receipts, $746,000. Gold dull at 114¾. Carrying rates 1 per cent and flat. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $298,000. Cleared, $40,000,000.

Governments dull. Railroads firm. State bonds quiet.

This has been the dullest day at the Stock Exchange for some time. Many heavy operators have been driven off by high commission rates. There is a proposition for an opposition Exchange, and a call has been issued for a meeting to be held at the Fifth Avenue Hotel Thursday evening to consider. At the opening of business, the market was irregular. Later on it advanced ¼@¾ per cent all round. Still later there was a general decline, under the lead of Wabash, which fell off 2 per cent in consequence of a movement to defeat the proposed funding scheme, which a large number of bondholders have already agreed to. The market closed steady, except for Wabash, which was weak. Missouri Pacific revived from 49¾ to 48. Pacific Mail was exceptionally strong. Transactions aggregated 130,000 shares, of which 30,000 were Pacific Mail, 20,000 Western Union, 8,000 Northwestern, 6,000 St. Paul, 6,000 Lake Shore, 16,000 Ohio & Mississippi, 11,000 Wabash, and 18,000 Union Pacific.

GOVERNMENT BONDS.

Coupons, '81	119¾	Coupons, '67	119¾
Coupons, '62	118	Coupons, '68	119¾
Coupons, '64	117¾	New 5s	114¾
Coupons, '65	119¾	10-40s	116¾
Coupons, new	119¾	Currency 6s	119¾

STATE BONDS.

Missouris	93¾	Virginias, old	30
Tennessee, old	62	N. Carolinas, old	96
Tennessee, new	62	N. Carolinas, new	13
Virginias, new	30		

STOCKS.

Canton	39	St. Paul	33¾
Western Union Tel	83¾	St. Paul pfd	55¾
Quicksilver	31	Wabash	11¾
Adams Express	101¾	Wabash pfd	14
Wells-Fargo	86	Ft. Wayne	97¾
American Express	49	Terre Haute	9¾
U. S. Express	80	Terre Haute pfd	25
Pacific Mail	53	Chicago & Alton	107¾
New York Central	101¾	Chicago & Alton pfd	111
Erie	28	Ohio & Mississippi	20¾
Erie pfd	45	Cleve., Cin. & Col	64¾
Harlem	128	Chi., Bur. & Quincy	103¾
Reading	102	Lake Shore	73¾
Michigan Central	75	Indiana Central	5
Pittsburg & Ft. Wayne	90¾	Illinois Central	101
Northwestern	44	Union Pacific stock	40
Northwestern pfd	69¾	Central Pacific stock	90¾
Rock Island	103¾	Union Pacific bonds	93¾
New Jersey Central	107¾	Del., Lack. & W	103¾

REAL ESTATE.

The following instruments were filed for record Monday, Feb. 15:

CITY PROPERTY.

Fifth av, 20 ft s of Harrison st, w f, 39x106 ft, dated Feb. 10 — $ 11,000

Davlin et. 236 ft s of Fulton st, w f, 25x104 ft, dated Feb. 10 — 1,140

Lots 2 to 5 of Lots 34 to 68, etc, in Block 2 of Wright's Lot 4, partition in Sec. 2, 39, 13, dated Nov. 9, 1874 — 2,000

Wieland st, s of North av, w f, 25x102 9-10 ft, dated Jan. 20 — 1,000

Western av, w or cor of Sessions, s f, 483x115 ft, dated Aug. 6, 1873 — 5,000

Cornelia st, 325½ ft w of Noble st, s f, 24x127 ft, dated Dec. 14, 1874 — 1,000

Ryman et al. to Smith et al., w f of Western av, s f, 24x100 ft, dated Feb. 15 — 800

Thirty-seventh st, 122 ft s of Stewart av, n f, 24x125 ft, dated Feb 15 — 925

McGregor et al. to Wentworth av, n f, 22x124 ft, dated June 1, 1874 — 8,250

SOUTH OF CITY LIMITS, WITHIN A RADIUS OF 7 MILES FROM COURT-HOUSE.

Indiana av, 90½ ft n of Forty-ninth st, e f, 50x160 7-10 ft, dated Feb. 2 — 2,200

Fifty-ninth st, 200 ft w of Stewart av, n f, 50x140 ft, dated Jan. 21 — 500

Lot 26, Block 2 of Hedges & McKindley's park — 1,000

Sec. 14, 38, 14, dated Dec. 30, 1874 — 1,000

COMMERCIAL.

The following were the receipts and shipments of the leading articles of produce in this city during the forty-eight hours ending at 7 o'clock on Monday morning, and for the corresponding date one year ago:

	RECEIPTS.		SHIPMENTS.	
	1875.	1874.	1875.	1874.
Flour, brls	4,269	14,974	7,044	14,713
Wheat, bu	20,852	156,246	31,624	170,309
Corn, bu	40,870	56,698	20,416	11,088
Oats, bu	16,020	58,440	11,078	6,358
Rye, bu	456	4,777	1,750	9,353
Barley, bu	3,400	17,720	2,920	9,458
Grass seed, lbs	80,195	130,585	157,554	125,411
Flax seed, lbs	21,000	36,780		4,743
Broom-corn, lbs		20,000	180,000	34,974
Cured meats, lbs	2,056,000	369,000	2,340,450	1,048,231
Pork, brls	200	735	3,693	1,390
Lard, lbs	155,800	42,100	653,406	292,963
Tallow, lbs	6,100	18,210	43,476	68,800
Butter, lbs	20,600	28,104	59,228	29,200
Dressed hogs, No	2,148	8,643	1,041	1,619
Live hogs, No	10,450	3,317	4,916	4,671
Cattle, No	978	680	1,761	1,794
Sheep, No	1,158	720	934	720

Hides, lbs | 110,559 | 63,375 | 209,709 | 132,063
Highwines, brls | 319 | 191 | 258 | 255
Wool, lbs | 77,960 | 35,382 | 3,570 | 143,646
Potatoes, bu | 650 | 1,000 | | 5
Lumber, No. feet | 56,000 | 288,000 | 472,000 | 3,108,223
Shingles, No | 240,000 | 770,000 | 619,000 | 1,270,000
Lath, No | | | 12,000 | 100,000
Salt, brls | 363 | 150 | 790 | 1,046

Also the following, without comparisons:

Kind of produce.	Received.	Shipped.
Poultry, lbs	78,962	106,845
Poultry, coops	21	
Game, pkgs	1	
Eggs, pkgs	310	
Cheese, lbs	25	
Dried fruits, lbs	84,005	
Beans, bu	6	254
Hay, tons	60	

Withdrawn from store on Saturday for city consumption: 8,467 bu wheat, 9,759 bu corn, 7,196 bu oats, 2,063 bu rye, 3,624 bu barley.

The following grain was inspected into store on Monday morning: 4 cars No. 1 spring, 33 cars No. 2 do; 8 cars No. 3 do (50 wheat); 11 cars high-mixed corn, 42 cars No. 2 do, 10 cars rejected do (63 corn, all new); 1 car white oats; 6 cars No. 2 do; 1 car rejected do; 4 cars No. 2 rye; 1 car No. 2 barley; 1 car rejected do. Total, 127 cars, or 48,000 bu. Inspected out: 7,121 bu wheat, 56,948 bu corn, 1,917 bu oats, 1,054 bu rye, 545 bu barley.

The Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce is agitated over the question whether that body requires one or two annual reports of the work of pork-packing throughout the West. The Secretary of the Association is the editor of a paper which has presented these reports for twenty-six years past, and the Superintendent is the authorized statistician of the Chamber, so far as the compilation of statistics of the trade and commerce of the city is concerned. The joke of the matter is that the Superintendent seems to want the Secretary to cease from his newspaper compilations, which is nearly the same thing as asking him to give up the newspaper, since that sheet is largely devoted to packing interests.

It is stated that the recent discussions about the value of barley in the Rock Island Elevators have brought out the fact that the barley in those houses is better than it was supposed to be, and some of it is being shipped out, on owners' account in preference to selling it at a discount of several cents per bu on the price of barley in other houses. It was even alleged yesterday that the recent raid on the quality of Rock Island barley was a bear movement to depress the market by decrying "regular." We have printed so much on the other side that it is but fair to report that, if only to show how some people will talk.

August Fischer is to have another chance. A meeting has been called at "high 12" on Thursday next to consider his case. We do not know whether or not the selection of this Masonic hour furnishes a good foundation on which he may build hopes of being reinstated.

The leading produce markets were generally easier yesterday, barley being the only prominent exception to the rule. The receipts exhibited a slight increase in grain, and a decided one in live stock, while there was a general anticipation that the volume of arrivals is about to become larger than the average, as a good deal was kept back by the recent bad weather, which is now clearing off. The shipping movement is small, except in provisions and corn, though the outgo of wheat was larger on Saturday than usual. The foreign markets were dull all round, and weak on breadstuffs, which fact was reflected into New York to everything but oats, which are not exportable produce. The recent furore in highwines gave way to a much easier feeling at the East yesterday.

Dry goods were fairly active and strong. Prints bleached and brown cottons, ticks and denims, are specially active, and with note a continued appreciation in values. The grocery market was without important new features. In absence of activity is still apparent, and prices are without important fluctuations. Coffees, teas, and sirups are easy. Sugars and rice are firmer. Butter and cheese were dealt in to a fair extent at very full prices. Nothing new was developed in the bagging, coal, wood, and leather markets. There was a moderate inquiry for foreign and domestic dried fruits at firmly maintained prices, with the exception of French prunes, in which we note a ½c decline. Apples and peaches are stronger. The fish trade was again active and firm. No changes were noted in canned goods. Oils remain quiet. The price-changes were confined to ½c decline in carbon.

There was no change in the local lumber market. The movement is still on a moderate scale, which, however, is attributable chiefly to the severe weather. Work in the pineries is pursued under difficulties, owing to the great depth of the snow. Building materials were quiet and unchanged. Dealers anticipate a fair trade in and early spring, and those having common brick sold in firmly at $6.50@7.50, as the stock believed to be not more than sufficient to supply the trade until new brick can be obtained. Timothy seed was more active yesterday and firm, while other seeds were steady and quiet, except Hungarian. Hay was steady, and prairie sold readily to local dealers. Broom corn was firm under a continued good order demand. Poultry was quiet and unchanged. Eggs were very firm, owing to their scarcity. The wool, hide, hop, and salt markets were quiet and unchanged.

The following were the exports from the four leading cities of the Atlantic seaboard for the dates named:

	Week end'g Feb. 13, 1875.	Week end'g Feb. 6, 1875.	Week end'g Feb. 14, 1874.
Flour, brls	46,020	41,786	59,600
Wheat, bu	146,000	228,933	530,000
Corn, bu	411,716	761,273	354,000
Rye, bu			41,600
Pork, brls	5,100	4,826	5,386
Lard, lbs	3,277,6 9	3,350,298	2,431,000
Bacon, lbs	8,100,738	8,112,912	7,958,000

*From five points.

THE CROPS.

The January report of the Department of Agriculture gives the following estimates of yield last year:

The product of wheat is greater in the aggregate than in any previous year, exceeding 300,000,000 bu. There was an increase of nearly 50,000,000.

Rye gave a product of 14,891,000 bu, being 98 per cent of the previous crop.

Oats, 248,000,000 bu; a decline of nearly 30,000,000 bu.

Barley, 32,704,000 bu, being 1 per cent increase.

Potatoes, 106,000,000 bu; about the same as the previous year.

Hay, 35,800,000 tons; an increase of 800,000 tons.

The price of corn in this country is governed by the quantity grown, the abundance or scarcity of other feeding-material having a slight modifying influence. The foreign demand, averaging from 1 and 2 per cent, and reaching in recent years 3 per cent, is too small to be a disturbing element in the market. The commercial assertion, that the foreign value of an exported article fixes its home-price, while partially true of wheat, fails almost utterly in its application to corn. So we usually see the lowest prices of corn when we have the largest products; but an average crop of wheat, with larger foreign crops, may bring higher prices than a more prolific one with deficient harvest abroad. A reference to the records of estimated production and current prices in past years illustrates this truth, and at the same time attests the accuracy of the records. The quantity produced and average prices of recent years are as follows:

In 1869, 287,000,000 bu, valued at 52c per bu.
In 1869, 874,000,000 bu, valued at 75c per bu.
In 1870, 1,094,000,000 bu, valued at 54c per bu.
In 1871, 991,000,000 bu, valued at 43c per bu.
In 1872, 1,092,000,000 bu, valued at 39c per bu.
In 1873, 992,000,000 bu, valued at 46c per bu.
In 1874, 854,000,000 bu, valued at 65c per bu.

The price in 1873 would have been at least 10 per cent higher than in 1870, but for the effect of the monetary panic on prices generally. The price at the close of 1872 was 15c lower than in 1870, partly from gradual decline in prices and in part because the surplus of old corn was much smaller in the latter year; the combined product of 1869–70 being 1,968,000,000 bu of 1871–'2, 2,083,000,000 bu; a difference of 115,000,000 bu. At the present time, a season of continued monetary depression, the average price is 65c, 10c less than in 1869, when the crop was 30,000,000 bu greater. In 1871, a medium crop, with a large surplus of the immense product of 1870, and a tendency to lower values generally, caused a reduction of 8c per bu.

The crops of 1869 and 1874 are the shortest for many years, and the prices naturally the highest.

PROVISIONS.

HOG PRODUCTS—Were active in a speculative way, and dull on cash lots, with a weak feeling all round. The receipts of hogs were larger than the recent average, and that market was weak under anticipations of still larger receipts this week, now that the roads in the country are in better order than a few days ago. This brought out free sellers of product, which weakened the market, while the shorts filled in moderately at the lower prices. The conditions above noted were discounted at other points also, giving weakness all round the telegraphic offing. We note that the shipments of product are much larger than a year ago, both for Saturday and the whole of last week.

MESS PORK—Was active, but was 15@17½c per brl lower, and declined 25c from the closing prices of Saturday, with very little recuperation during the session. The market opened weak, and so ruled all the end. Sales were reported on Change of 410 brls at $18.20@18.25; 20,500 brls seller March at $18.17½@18.42½; and 10,250 brls seller April at $18.50@18.62½. Total, 31,160 brls. The market closed at $18.10@18.15 cash or seller the month; $18.20@18.22½ for March; $18.30@18.55 for April; and nominally at $18.80@ 18.85 for May.

Other descriptions of pork were inactive, and nominally easier; at $19.25@19.50 for clear; $18.25@18.37½ for prime mess; and $13.25@13.37½ for extra mess.

LARD—Was active, and 7½@10c per 100 lbs lower, under a pressure from the Stock-Yards, and an easier feeling in Liverpool, though the latter market was publicly quoted the same as on Saturday. Sales were reported on Change of 220 tcs cash at $12.97½ (loose); 250 tcs seller the month at $13.45; 3,500 tcs seller March at $13.80@13.90; and 1,000 tcs seller April at $13.72½@ 13.82½; and 100 tcs seller May at $13.95@13.97½. Total, 11,320 lbs. The market closed at 13.45 cash; $13.82½ for March; $13.72½@13.75 for April; and $13.95 for May.

MEATS—Were dull and easier, though holders were nominally firm at previous prices. There is reason to think that some sales were made at concessions, and not reported. The sales made public were 60,000 lbs fall-cured shoulders at 6¾c; 40,000 lbs short ribs at $5.60@5.62½ per 100 lbs; 250 barrels long-cut hams (19 lbs) at 11c; 20,000 lbs green hams (13 lbs) at 9¼c; and 2,000 pcs do (16 lbs) at 9¾c. The market closed firm, 6¾c for green shoulders, 9¾c for do long clear, 9¾c do short ribs, 9¾c do short clear, and 9¼@9½c do hams. Sweet-pickled hams (15 lbs average) at 10½@10¾c. Meats in salt (part cured) quoted at 6¾c for shoulders cash or seller February; 6¾c do seller March; 7c do seller April; long clear, 9¼c cash or seller February; do seller March, 9½@9¾c; do seller April, 9¾c; short ribs, 9¾c cash or seller February; do seller March, 9¾c; do seller April, 10c; short clears, 10c; do seller March, 10c; do seller April, 10¼c. Boxed meats ¼c higher than loose. Long cut hams, 10¾@11¼c. Bacon cut meats quoted at 12½@13½c for hams, 8c for shoulders, 10¼c for short rib, and 11¼c for short clears—all packed.

GREASE—Was quiet at 6@10c.

BEEF PRODUCTS—Were quiet and nominally unchanged, at $8.25 for mess, $9.25 for extra mess, and $20.00@20.50 for hams.

TALLOW—Quoted at 8¼@8¾c.

BREADSTUFFS.

FLOUR—Was rather more active. There was a fair local demand for choice brands, and one or two round lots wanted for shipment. The market was quoted unchanged, as desirable brands are scarce and receipts small, which formed an efficient offset to Eastern dullness. Sales were reported of 275 brls winters on private terms; 650 brls spring extras, chiefly at $4.80 @5.25, the outside for Minnesotas; 1,000 brls spring superfines on private terms; and 175 brls buckwheat flour at $4.00 for poor to $6.00 for choice. Total, 2,100 brls. The market closed as follows: Choice winter extras, $5.25@5.50; common to good do, $4.25 @5.00; choice spring extras, $4.25@4.50; fair do, shipping grades, $3.75@4.00; patent spring, $5.00@ 9.00; spring superfines, $3.00@3.75; rye flour, $5.15 @5.25; buckwheat do, $5.50@5.12½.

BRAN—Was in good supply, in proportion to the demand, and irregularly easier. Sales were 30 tons at $10.50 on track, and $10.50@20.00 delivered.

CORN-MEAL—Was quoted at $3.40@3.60 per brl for good, and $24.00@24.50 per ton for coarse.

WHEAT—Was rather more active in a speculative way than on Saturday, but ½@¾c lower, with a rather heavy feeling the last hour of the session. Liverpool was quoted easier, and New York was dull on old, but active and no lower on new. The Eastern influences were not sufficient to cause weakness in new corn, but the market was easy under the pressure of larger receipts here, and buyers held off till that fact should produce its legitimate effect. The only first phase of the market was a demand for rejected, which was wanted at 61½c, with no offered; the percentages of grade in the receipts is now small. Seller March opened at 63¾c, declined to 63c, and closed at 63¼c. Seller the month sold at 62¾@62½c, closing at 62¼c. Seller May sold at 70¼@69¾c, closing at 69¾c. Seller April sold at 67½@64¾c, and seller June at 68½c. Cash sales were reported of 85,400 bu No. 2 at 62¾@62¼c; 1,200 bu ears at 62@60c; and 2,400 bu by sample at 63¼@61c on track. Total, 89,000 bu.

OATS—Were quiet and steady at about Saturday's range of prices. There was little demand for cash except for home consumption, for which a few cars of fresh receipts were taken at a slight advance in prices. Regular No. 2 was dull, selling early at 52½c, and quoted afterwards at 52¾@53½c. Fresh receipts sold at 53c@53¼c. Rejected sold at 51½c. Sales included 4,200 bu No. 2 at 52½@53½c; 2,200 bu No. 2 white at 53c; 600 bu rejected at 51¾c; and 1,800 bu by sample at 50@53c. Total, 7,800 bu. Seller March sold at 52¾ @52¾c. Seller April at 53¾@53¼c, both closing at the inside. Seller May sold at 50@50¼c, and closed at 49½c bid.

RYE—Was in light supply and request. Fresh receipts of No. 2 sold at 93¾c, and the market was quoted firm at this figure. A small sale by sample was reported at $1.00. Sales aggregated 1,000 bu.

BARLEY—Was more active and irregularly higher. The stronger feeling was due to the report of the Investigating Committee, which partially quieted the recent agitation concerning the inferiority of No. 2's; and to the rumor that there was a large line of shorts out for next month, and to continued light receipts. There were a few orders on the market for cash, and regular No. 2 (in R. I.) sold early at $1.07, closing at $1.03. Fresh No. 2 sold at $1.11, $1.10 in A. D. & Co.'s at $1.15, No. 3 sold at $1.02 in R. I. and $1.05 in N. S. houses. For rejected 95c was bid. Options were fairly active. Seller March opened at $1.06¾, and advanced and closed at $1.08. Seller April also advanced 3¼c under a good demand, closing at $1.08¾ bid and $1.07 asked. Sales were reported of 1,000 bu regular No. 2 in R. I. at $1.07, 300 bu fresh in N. S. and A. D. & Co. at $1.11-15, 400 bu No. 3 at $1.03@1.05, and 800 bu by sample at $1.06@1.15. Total, 3,600 bu.

LATEST.

In the afternoon mess pork was fairly active, and lower for March. Sales were reported of 6,250 brls at $18.17½@18.25 seller March, $18.47½@18.50 seller April, and $19.10 seller June. The market closed at $18.10 bid for cash and $18.17½ for March.

Lard was quiet and easier for cash and steady for future, with sales of 950 tcs at $13.92½ seller March, $14.07½ seller April. Cash closed at $13.47½, and March at $13.55½.

Wheat was fairly active and advanced early ¾c, closing a shade higher than on Change. Seller March sold at 64¾@65c, and closed at the inside. Seller April at 65¾@66¼c, closing at 65½@65c.

Corn was quiet and a shade firmer, closing at 62¾c for March, 64¾c for April, and 70¾c for May.

Barley was no higher, selling at $1.00@1.09¾ for March, and closing at $1.10 bid. Seller April closed at $1.08.

Oats were quiet and steady, at 52¾c for March, and 53c for April.

GENERAL MARKETS.

ALCOHOL—Was quoted at $2.14.

BROOM CORN—Orders are coming forward quite freely, and trade in the aggregate is fair. The market is firm, at recent prices, as follows: Good to extra hurl, 15@16c; brush that will work itself into a choice hurl brooms, 11@12c; common to fair do, 9¼@10c; inferior brush, 8½@9c; crooked, 8½@7½c.

BUTTER—Prices range much the same as for a number of days past, with, however, a firmer feeling apparent amongst holders—the result of the continued moderate receipts. Strictly choice table butter is comparatively scarce, nor are the stocks of other grades held here as large as in some past seasons at this period. There was a moderate movement on local and shipping account at the range of prices following: Choice to fancy yellow, 29@35c; medium to good grades, 23@25c; inferior to common, 18@22c; inferior to choice roll, 18@25c.

CHEESE—No material changes were apparent in any of the features of the cheese market. The inclement weather tends to check shipments, but orders continue to come forward freely, and the market maintains an unqualifiedly firm tone. Quotations remain at 17@18c for prime mild factory, and at 16@18½c for goods to "fine" in flavor.

COAL—Activity is still noticeable in the coal market, and prices both for hard and soft coals are strong: Lackawanna, $10.00; cannel, $8.00@9.00; Erie and Walnut Hill, $7.50; Big Muddy Run, $7.00; Hocks, $7.00; Blossburg, $8.50; Hocking Valley, $7.00; Indiana block, $6.50; Illinois, $4.50@5.00.

COOPERAGE—Pork barrels sold at $1.18. The market was rather dull for pork barrels, $1.15; lard tierces, $1.55@1.70; flour barrels, 48@50c; whisky barrels, $1.90@2.00; pork staves, rough, $15.00@18.00; do bucked, $18.00@22.00; flour staves, $7.00@8.50; circle flour heading, 7½@9c; light poles, $25.00@32.00.

DRESSED HOGS—Were in active demand for shipment and steady, at $7.75 for light and $8.00@8.12½ for heavy weights. Sales were reported of 1,166 head.

EGGS—Were scarce and firm. The supply of fresh eggs is well reduced, and dealers are now working on the stock of pickled, which, when found to be in good condition, sell rapidly and at enhanced prices. Fresh were sold at 28@31c, and choice pickled at 20@24c; fair do, 15@18c, and poor at 12@14c.

FISH—A continuously good demand, both for lake and saltwater cured, is reported, and the market retains the firm tone for some time past characterizing it. Whitefish and trout are not plenty, and there is some likelihood of a further advance. We quote: No. 1 whitefish, ½-brl, $5.00@6.25; No. 2 do, $5.75@6.00; No. 1 trout, $5.25@5.50; No. 1 shore mackerel, new, ½-brl, $6.00@6.50; fat, ½-brl, $5.50@6.00; No. 2 mackerel, ½-brl, $5.25@ 5.75; No. 1 shore fats, $1.15@1.80; bank codfish, $5.25@6.50; George's codfish, $5.50@6.75; Labrador herring, split, brls, $5.50@6.00; do, ½-brls, $3.50@4.50; Labrador herring, round, brl, $7.50@8.00; do, ½-brl, $4.00@4.25; scaled herring per box, 43@45c; Columbia River salmon, ½-brl, $9.75@10.00; ocean trout, ½ doz and 4 doz per box, $6.50.

FRUITS AND NUTS—Jobbers report no material improvement in the demand, nor do they look for any until there is a favorable change in the weather. In the meantime prices of most descriptions are held with decided firmness. Michigan apples are a ¼c higher, and halve peaches show a tendency to advance. We quote: FOREIGN—Dates, 8@9c; figs, drums, 14½@15½c; figs, layers, 19½@20½c; Turkish prunes, 10¼@11¼c; French prunes, kegs, 13¼@ 15c; raisins, layers, $3.15@3.20; loose Muscatel, $4.10@ 4.20; Valencia, 10@12½c; Zante currants, 7¼@ 7¾c; citron, 30@32c; lemon peel, 15@20c. DOMESTIC —Alden apples, 16@20c; Michigan apples, 5@ 9c; Indiana and Illinois, 7@8c; Southern, 7¼@ 8c; peaches, halves, 9@10c; do mixed, 7¼@8c; do pared, 20@24c; blackberries, 10½@11¼c; raspberries, 35@36c; pitted cherries, 20@22c. NUTS —Filberts, 15@16c; almonds, Tarragona, 24@25c; Naples walnuts, 15@16c; Grenoble walnuts, new, 13@14c; Hickory, 11@11½c; pecans, Texas, 15@16c; Wilmington peanuts, 7@10c; Tennessee peanuts, 6@ 8c; African peanuts, 5½@6c.

GREEN FRUITS—The severe weather still interferes with the trade in green fruits, in consequence the outside orders received are nominally allowed to lay over, and the resellers are buying sparingly. Lemons are fair, and other fruits were in sound condition, steady. Quotations: Choice Messina and Palermo lemons, $5.50@10.00 per box; Valencia oranges, $5.50@10.00 per case; Palermo and Messina do, per box, $3.00@4.50; apples, per brl, $1.50@2.50; choice do, $2.75@3.00; cranberries, $10.00@11.50 per brl; Malaga grapes, $6.00@6.50 per keg, and $3.00@3.50 per box.

GROCERIES—Trade remains dull in all departments of the grocery market. Few buyers are to be seen, nor do the orders received through the mails make a very good showing. Prices remain without important change and may be quoted steady as follows:

RICE—Patna, 7½@8¼c; Rangoon, 6¾@7c; Carolina, 7¾@8¾c; Louisiana, 7@8c.

COFFEES—O. G. Java, 34@34½c; Java, No. 2, 30@ 31c; choice to fancy Rio, 23½@28½c; good to prime do, 20@21½c; common, 22@22½c; roasting, 20@21c; Singapore Java, 29@32c; Costa Rica, 23@24c; Maracaibo, 23@24¼c.

SUGARS—Patent cut loaf, 11¾@11¾c; crushed and powdered, 11¼@11¾c; granulated, 11@11¼c; A, standard, 10¾c; do, No. 2, 10@10¼c; B, 9¾@10c; extra C, 9¾@9¾c; C No. 2, 9¼@9½c; yellow, C No. 1, 9¼@9¾c; choice brown, 8¾@8¾c; fair to prime do, 8@8¼c; common do, 7½@7¾c; choice molasses sugar, 8¼@8½c; common to fair do, 7¼@8c; N. O. common to choice, 7@8¼c.

SYRUPS—Diamond drips, $1.15@1.20; silver drips extra fine, 65@70c; good sugar-house sirups, 55@65c; extra do, 63@65c; New Orleans molasses, choice, new, 70@74c; do prime, 65@68c; do common, 60@63c; Porto Rico molasses, 50@55c; common molasses, 41 @44c.

SPICES—Allspice, 15½@16½c; cloves, 50@55c; cassia, 30@32c; pepper, 21@22c; nutmegs, No. 1, $1.30@1.38; ginger, African, 22@26c; do Calcutta, 18@20c.

SOAPS—German Mottled, 6¼@7c; Golden West, 4¾ @5c; White Lily, 6¼@6¾c; White Rose, 6¾@6¾c; white Russian, 5¼@6c.

HAY—Prairie was in request, but timothy was quiet; No. 1, $17.50@18.00; No. 2 do, $15.00@15.50; mixed, $11.50@14.00; choice upland prairie, $13.50@ 13.75; No. 1 do, $12.00@12.50; No. 2, or slough, $10.00 @11.50.

HIGHWINES—Were quiet and easier. Sale was made early of 100 brls at $1.07 per gallon, which was the price on Saturday, but New York was afterwards reported at $1.05, and then our market closed heavy, with no bids, and none offered. The stock of wines here is estimated at 6,500 brls.

HIDES—Were quiet and unchanged. The receipts were light but ample. We quote: Green city butchers', 7¾c; green frozen, 7½@7¾c; green cured light, 9c; heavy do, 8@8¼c; part cured, 8@8¼c; green salted, 8½@9c; dry flint hides, 15@16c; dry salt, 14@ 15c; dry salted hides, 14@15c; deacon skins, 40@ 45c; sheep pelts, wool estimated as washed, per lb, 40@45c.

HOPS—Were dull, but steadily held, under very light stocks. The falling off in exports and dullness of the home trade has produced a weakness in New York. Western hops are quoted at 30@43c, and Eastern at 43c.

LUMBER—Continues in moderate demand at unchanged prices. The snow in the pineries is said to be so deep as to seriously impede work. It is almost impossible to haul logs either in Michigan or Wisconsin. The elements this season are evidently on the side of those who are anxious to curtail production. Although lumbering this winter is pursued under many disadvantages, there is not much fear of a large shortage in the crop. The supply of old lumber, logs, etc., left over from last season is said to be about 110,000,000 feet less than the old stock on hand a year ago. Following are the quotations:

First clear	$52.00@55.00
Second clear, 1 inch to 2 inch	46.00@50.00
Third clear, 1 inch	37.00@40.00
Third clear, thick	41.00@45.00
Clear flooring, 1st and 2d, rough	38.00@40.00
Clear siding, 1st and 2d	20.00 @21.00
First common siding	18.00@20.00
Flooring, first common, dressed	31.00@33.00
Flooring, second common, dressed	24.00@26.00
Box boards, A and B	28.00@30.00
A stock boards	24.00@26.00
B stock boards	21.00@23.00
C stock boards	13.00@16.00
Fencing (16 ft.)	1.00@13.00
Common, jumper, 14 ft and under	11.00@13.00
Joist and scantling, 18 to 24 feet	12.00@18.00
Lath	2.00@ 2.25
A shingles	3.00@ 3.25
Shingles on track (A)	2.75@ 2.87½

OILS—Business remains quiet with most lines firmly held. Carbon is an exception, the quotations being lowered ¼c, as follows: Carbon (standard white), 115 fire test, 16½c; Illuminating oil, 160 deg., 15½@16c; do headlight, 175 deg., 18½@19c; extra winter lard oil, $1.12@1.15; No. 1, 95c; No. 2, 80c; linseed, raw, 83@85c; do boiled, 88@90c; whale, 70@78c; sperm, $2.35@2.40; crude, 70@75c; common, 32@37½c; roasting, 30@31c; Singapore Java, 29@32c; Costa Rica, 23@24c; Maracaibo, 23@24¼c.

SUGARS—Patent cut loaf, 11¾@11¾c; crushed and powdered, 11¼@11¾c; granulated, 11@11¼c; A, standard, 10¾c; do, No. 2, 10@10¼c; B, 9¾@10c; extra C, 9¾@9¾c; C No. 2, 9¼@9½c; yellow, C No. 1, 9¼@9¾c; choice brown, 8¾@8¾c; fair to prime do, 8@8¼c; common do, 7½@7¾c; choice molasses sugar, 8¼@8½c; common to fair do, 7¼@8c; N. O. common to choice, 7@8¼c.

SYRUPS—Diamond drips, $1.15@1.20; silver drips extra fine, 65@70c; good sugar-house sirups, 55@65c; extra do, 63@65c; New Orleans molasses, choice, new, 70@74c; do prime,

THE NEW COMPANY.

The Deporters Determine to Rush Upon the Stage.

Grand Consultation Meeting Sunday Evening.

Mr. Gardiner Beams Upon the Assemblage.

It Is Resolved to Electrify the City Some Sunday Evening.

The Lightning Dramatist Submits the Draft of a Play.

The average Chicago reporter is anything but a gregarious animal. He is forced by the nature of his business, at any rate during business hours, to accomplish his duty single-handed, and with but little converse with his fellow-workers. Hence it comes that reporters who have met at the same room and taken arguments from the same book daily for years together, have nothing, or next to nothing, in common but the work they execute together. Of course, meeting together daily as they do, they frequently feel a yearning for one another's society, but the chances of an idle hour arriving at which something like general leisure might allow of a general exchange of social amenities are so small that the idea of such a luxury is never indulged in. Occasionally, it must be admitted, futile attempts have been made to unite the "boys" in a common object, having amusement or instruction as its incentive. The columns of THE TRIBUNE have already recorded how a spectacled newspaper man in the role of *Iago* aroused the green-eyed monster in the heart of an *Othello*, who was admittedly one of the best men at a hanging in the business, and the ire of the audience, who did not relish the introduction of the spectacular in the wonderful tragedy; how the Press Club alternately flourished, languished, and finally faded into nothing, and how a newspaper baseball nine were defeated by several hundred runs in a match with a club of painfully superior prowess. All these things go to show that, though aware of the difficulties which beset their path, the natural perinacity (without the possession of which a reporter might as well go running a bank, or some other occupation less incisive than his own) of the reporter is liable at any moment to induce him to lend his aid to any movement which might promise a union of forces for an

INTELLECTUAL OR ENTERTAINING OBJECT.

It is now some time since the "boys" have come together elsewhere than at the City-Hall or County Board, or a political or ecclesiastical convention, or a hanging, or some other thing combining business and pleasure, and it is therefore with great gratification that the fact is recorded that Sunday quite a few of them (how many and who they were will be shown hereafter) met at the Sherman House and concocted a scheme which not only rendered a meeting together to converse upon of a number of them, but also held out a hope to the public that they might at no very far future date enjoy with the senses of sight and hearing that converse. The nature of the meeting will, perhaps, be best explained by the publication of

THE FOLLOWING CIRCULAR,

one of which was sent to everybody who was or purported to be a newspaper man in the city:

There will be a meeting of the members of the newspaper fraternity, at the club-room, in the Sherman House, on Sunday evening next, Feb. 14, at 8 o'clock, to take action relative to giving a benefit dramatic entertainment, at the Academy of Music, on Sunday evening, Feb. 28. You are cordially invited to be present, and, should any of the members of your staff not receive notice, please bring them with you.

T. W. B. D. By Order of the COMMITTEE.

The circular was variously received. Some of the boys thought it was a hoax, a "Tom Collins" kind of a sell—a suspicion that was strengthened by the fact that it bore no name, and nobody knew who the committee was who ordered the meeting. Others thought that at any rate it would be as well to spend the evening at the club-room as at church, and it is probable that even the circular per se would have secured quite a respectable gathering. It was

THE MYSTICAL LETTERS

on the left-hand lower corner, however, which made the meeting a success. During the afternoon one of the "committee" went round and informed those who had received the circular that these letters meant nothing more or less than the words "There will be drinking."

There was a large attendance, and, as it was Sunday evening, and the clothes proper to the day had been donned by the boys, their appearance was very creditable. It is only fair that those who are day by day giving publicity, pleasant or otherwise, according to the deserts of their subjects, to other men, should on this occasion have the pleasure of seeing their names in print. The following are those who were present, arranged both according to the papers they represent when on duty, and to the peculiar bent of their histrionic ability:

HEAVY TRAGEDY.

TRIBUNE—Hank McCaffery, Billy Sartoris, The O'Finucane, D. Dewsnap, Marsh Blane, Roundel, Palmetto Tillon, Tom Tomkins (without a "P"), Anny Matthewson. *Inter-Ocean*—Johnny Valentine, Arthur Gatepost, Peoria Short, Horatius McGuns, Guy Magians, O'Scoullin, Andy Boobey. *Post and Mail*—Peter Saul, Tom Black. *Staats-Zeitung*—Antonius Cæsar Hartmann.

LEADING GENTLEMEN.

TRIBUNE—Otto Bismarck, Muldoon the Solid, George Washington Wordhull, Zachariah T. Cokes. *Times*—The Bothwell, Frau Carrickton. *Inter-Ocean*—Jem Gimleton, A Beertap.

LOW COMEDY.

TRIBUNE—George Jordan. *Times*—Frank Hadem, Little Slichter, Crawles Southdown. *Inter-Ocean*—Saukey McMullins, Ben Owhard. *Journal*—R. E. Hoity-toity.

EOCENTRIC CHARACTERIZATION.

Almost all of them.

FEMALE CHARACTERS.

The O'Finucane, C. D. Nett, Zach Cokes, George Weakling.

It must be understood that there were many more reporters at the meeting, but as the above are those who will figure before the public as the public's servants, it is needless to give any names but theirs; and also that inasmuch as the above histrionic arrangement was made solely upon their own representations, and that the stage-manager, whose appointment will be mentioned hereafter, is invested with the power to cast the characters of the play as may seem best to him, the public need not be surprised if they find, on the evening of the journalistic dramatic entertainment, some of the heavy-tragedy men figuring simply as the noisy integers of a necessary mob, or tripping with ill-subdued strides beneath a feather-weight of delicate muslin, or to find a low-comedy man ranting through four terrible acts of rapine and murder, and finally vindicating the judgment of the stage-manager by purring (in the fifth act) his pollard in the heart of the man who collects hotel personals—no, that's a mistake—of the heavy villain who first of all supposed his peculiar talents were altogether in the light and airy line of love-making walking-gentleman.

THE MEETING.

It met, of course,—the "T. W. B. D." insured that,—and, as has already been shown, there was quite a quorum.

The first business done was to elect a Chairman. It could not have been otherwise. Over the Presidential chair beamed (on motion) the pleasantly-smiling countenance of Guy Magians, who, after calling the meeting out of disorder, called upon Mr. Gardiner or Mr. Williams, of the Academy, who kindly attended to help the boys through, to explain its object.

MR. GARDINER

did so. He alluded in brief but touching terms to the decline of the American drama. There was no denying the fact. The drama was declining, and the theatrical business was not what it used to be before the fire,—financially. The race of actors was dying out. The public were crying for something new. Where were the Booths, the Jeffersons, the Sotherns, the Frank Mayos, the John Dillons, the James O'Neils, the John Blaisdells, of the future to come from? What histrionic well was to gush forth with first-class artists such as these? His answer was—in the press. [Long and continued applause.] He saw gentlemen around him who had mistaken their profession. In one he detected the nobility of feature of a Rocius.

Here a *Times* reporter asked for time to question the speaker. He wanted to know what company Mr. Roshus traveled with, and only subsided when an *Inter-Ocean* reporter, with an air of superiority, informed him that he was Dal'y's low-comedy man.

Mr. Gardiner resumed. In another he observed the graceful vivacity of a Garrick, in a third the terrible impetuosity of the elder Kean, in another (here he glanced at McCaffery) the gigantic and colossal grandeur of a Forrest, in another the polish and power of a Betterton, in another the versatility of a John Dillon, in all the capacity to dress with as much taste as any leading gentleman it had ever been his lot to meet. Why should this talent be idle? Why should it not be exercised, cultivated, brought out? Echo answered, why?

The speaker was loudly applauded as he sat down, and quiet was hardly restored when

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS

were offered and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this meeting is possessed of such histrionic ability as to make it absolutely sinful to deprive the public, in this age of dramatic depression, from enjoying an exhibition of its powers.

Resolved, That on some future Sunday evening this meeting do treat the public to a dramatic entertainment.

At this point Mr. Muldoon observed that there were some persons present who were not newspaper men. He referred to three persons connected with the *Daily Carrion*. He moved the appointment of a Committee on Credentials, which was done.

The Committee having retired, Mr. Gardiner asked for permission to introduce to the meeting a friend of his, the most versatile and prolific playwright of the age.

MR. HASTLY BOMBSHELL,

a gentleman who could write more plays in quicker time than any ten men inside or outside of America. [Cheers and cries of "Bombshell," "Bombshell," "speech," "speech."]

MR. BOMBSHELL

bowed modestly (all great men are modest), and expressed himself quite abashed at his warm reception. He was not a talker,—he was a writer. He felt he could not talk quick enough—he wrote much faster than he talked. He understood they were about to form a dramatic club. That was an excellent idea. The depression of the drama was not the fault of the dramatic writers. They were never more prolific than at present. The one thing needed was the acting power to carry the genius of the dramatist to the public. That power he beheld before him. Could he but write one drama specially for the genius he saw seated before him, he would write one more play and then die. [Loud and prolonged cheering.] Since he had come into the room a beautiful plot for a characteristic play had developed itself in his mind. Might he unfold it to his audience? [Cries of "Go ahead!"] The scene opens in the gorgeous parlor of a sumptuous hotel down East. A foreign Princess, visiting the United States incog., reclines upon a sofa. A New York stenographer for an Eastern paper enters and demands an interview. She haughtily declines, and the stenographer vanishes into the passage. A Chicago phonographer enters, is received graciously, begins a general interview,—asks the Princess how she likes the country,—gets it all down verbatim. As he proceeds, a strange feeling fills his breast, a strange light gleams in the Princess' eyes; from commonplace expressions they warm into the words of tenderness—they clasp hands—it is love at first sight! In the meantime the New York stenographer has returned to the town, and creeps with open Faber-sharpener towards his successful rival—the latter is busy on [illegible] a moment more and—the colored waiter seizes the stenographer by the coat and pants and chucks him out into the street. Lady faints; Chicago phonographic reporter leans over her, murmuring Love! love! love! The colored waiter strikes an attitude, and cries out "Goramighty"; the New York stenographer picks himself up into the room, and, with clenched fist shaking at his rival, mutters "R-r-r-r-evenge!" [Chorus of "beautiful," "lovely," etc., ad lib.]

The scene of the next two acts of the play will be Chicago.

THE SECOND ACT

will introduce the Princess to one of the hog-slaughtering establishments in the vicinity of the Stock-Yards. In company with her chaperone, an old lady, who (if she can be made an intensely comic character, or the reverse if necessary, the Princess has gone to see how it is done. She is followed by the Chicago phonographer, whose attentions she encourages, though secretly, on account of the vigilance of the chaperone. She is gazing into the hog-pen. The hogs are about to be let in. The slaughterers stand in readiness. The hogs are let in. The slaughtering commences. Consider, gentlemen, the force of the realistic effect, the squealing hogs, the torrents of blood, the enthusiasm of the Princess as she times the operations with her bediamonded stop-watch—the admiration of her nerve displayed by the Chicago phonographer—the pride on the part of the owner of the establishment as he whoops the boys on to fresh exertions. Then comes the tableau. The lady's glance is strangely attracted by the face of the slaughterer, which is familiar. Suddenly she cries, "It is he—that wretched stenographer!" As suddenly the New York stenographer (for it was he) leaps from the pen, crying "R-r-r-r-evenge!" and brandishes his knife over the head of the phonographer, who is interested in the eviscerration of an unusually large sow. The knife is descending, when the Princess, crying "No you don't!" chucks the villain back into the pig-pen, where he is trodden nearly to death by the animals. The lovers embrace! The old lady discovers their love! The villain is dragged forth bespattered and bloody, and exposed to universal contumely. Tableau. Curtain falls.

THE THIRD ACT

will also be intensely realistic. In the background a Chicago fire will be in operation. About twenty-five blocks are ablaze. In a saloon in the foreground about forty reporters, sent to report the fire, are interviewing forty policemen who were sent to keep order at the fire. The fire approaches, driving all before it. Among the fugitives is a young lady clad in muslin and diamonds,—a very fine combination for the stage. She rushes into the saloon. The fire catches it at the same moment. All the reporters but one rush for a saloon three blocks further off. That one is the New York stenographer disguised. He has given up hog-killing and gone on an evening paper. The lady cries, "I am the Princess Incognita. Save me, save me from the flames!" The villain discovers himself to her. She pleads for mercy. He drags her into the flames. A moment, and he throws her into it, crying, "That's worse than hogs even," when a manly form dashes into sight, rescues the Princess, and thrusts the villain into the flames. Tableau. Curtain falls.

THE FOURTH ACT

is located in Missouri. A band of brigands are skulking near a sharp turn in a mountain road. The leader is known as "Scar-Face Tommy." As he speaks he is recognized as the New York stenographer, though his face is so scarred with fire that his features are no longer recognizable. While they converse, a carriage drives into view. The brigands capture it. The occupants are an old lady and a young one,—the chaperone and the Princess, of course. The brigands take the diamonds and money, and condemn the party to death by shooting. They place their victims in position. The ladies ask ten minutes in which to pray. It is granted. The driver has one favor to ask, too. He says he is a reporter. He wants to utilize the ten minutes by sending off a message to THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE giving particulars of the whole occurrence as late as possible. The brigands favor the idea, all but "Scar-Face Tommy." He has recognized in the driver an enemy. He offers to shoot him on the spot. The brigands mutiny. They tie up their leader. The reporter proceeds to take phonographic notes of the occurrence. "Hi, Scar-Face," cries a brigand, "you said you were the fastest short-hand in America; here's a man can discount yer!" Scar-Face intimates a willingness to try the race. The conditions are soon fixed. The winner of the short-hand race is to be leader of the party—the loser is to be put to death. One of the party named

GLIB-TONGUED BILLY

does the talking. The [illegible] Glib-Tongued Billy rattles off 100 words a minute—the pencils fly along the paper—150 words a minute—there is no stop in the short-handers—200 words a minute—stenographer and phonographer ply pencil for life or death,—300—400—500—600—700 words a minute!—when suddenly the scar-faced stenographer falls back helpless, with his last lead-pencil's point worn down to the wood. He is immediately slain by the brigands, and the phonographer is hailed as their chief. The ten minutes' time is up, and the brigands cry for the blood of the ladies. The phonographer objects. He threatens to shoot the first man who dares approach his Incognita,—mind you, his Incognita. Another mutiny occurs. Revolvers bang, bowie-knives flash, oaths fight with the smoke for place in the atmosphere; the phonographer kills six brigands, but is overpowered. Death is close at hand, when in dash a dozen of Billy Pinkerton's special detectives. Then comes the grand battle,—the overthrow of the brigands,—the release of the phonographer and the ladies,—the discovery that the former is the Princess' lover. Of course the play will close with a declaration on the lady's part that she can love none other—the consent of the old lady, who has discovered that there is no place like Chicago, is granted to the match, and a local Justice of the Peace, having followed one of Billy Pinkerton's detectives at a respectful distance, arrives just in time to do the marrying, which of course is morganatic in its nature, but still quite essential to the success of the play.

Having concluded this brief outline of the principal features of his drama, Mr. Bombshell stated that he intended to name it "The Triumph of Phonography; or, the Black-Hearted Stenographer."

It was unanimously decided by the meeting that the play should be chosen as the one to be given by them at the coming event.

In answer to a question, Mr. Bombshell stated that he could, if the meeting wished, have the play written the same evening, but, as he wanted to do something especially good this time, he would like to have until next day to complete the work.

This request was unanimously granted.

THE COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS

returned with their report, which was as follows:

Your Committee beg to report that, having examined the claims of certain parties said to ply the plagiaristic scissors and paste-pot in the interests of a sheet called the *Daily Carrion* to seats at this meeting, they are of opinion that the said *Daily Carrion* is not in any sense of the term a newspaper, and that, its employes consequently not being newspaper-men, they must be immediately excluded from the meeting.

The report was adopted, and the *Carrion* representatives were shown down stairs by an attendant of the house.

The chair announced that inasmuch as Mr. Bombshell's play would not probably take longer than three hours to act he would be glad to hear of suggestions of other plays.

The O'Finucane moved that the delightful and romantic, though at the same time melancholy play,—melancholy in that it narrated the wrongs of his suffering country and the death of as noble and patriotic a soul as ever gave up its heart's blood for his native land,—the play of "Robert Emmet," be adopted as the afterpiece. He would play the role of the glorious patriot, but he would give fair notice to those who might be required to don the red-coat of the sanguinary British mercenary in the piece that he would not be held accountable for anything he might do toward them in a moment of pathetic frenzy.

Mons. Quinlnier suggested "Divorce," as he was quite familiar with its lines, understood all the machinery, and would be quite at home in it.

Hank McCaffrey suggested "Ten Nights in a Bar-Room," as a play in which he would be able to do some excellent character-acting.

Fran Carrieaton wanted a society play. After other suggestions, the matter was finally referred to a committee of five.

Antonius Cæsar Hartmann expressed much dissatisfaction at the way things were being conducted at the meeting. They forgot that there were Germans present as well as Americans. He was of opinion that at least a German translator should be present at the theatre to translate the words as they fell from the lips of the English-speaking actors, and shout them to the Germans in the audience. If they did not agree to this, he would at once leave the meeting and take all his reporters with him.

The young man and his reporters were allowed to depart in peace.

Saukey McMullins wished to call the attention of the meeting to a little matter about which it seemed to him there had been

A SLIGHT MISUNDERSTANDING.

He held in his hand one of the circulars calling the meeting. In the left-hand corner of this circular were the letters "T. W. B. D.," which he had been given to understand meant "There—will—be—drinking." [Cries of "That's so," "So I was told," etc.] Now, he would like to know, before he went any further in the business of the meeting, which was growing tedious, just how much of truth there was in this assertion. [Cheers and stamping.]

George Jordan arose, smiling blandly, and expressed an opinion that there must be some misunderstanding. The letters referred to were the initials of four Latin words which he need not mention, as no doubt they all remembered them at least as well as he did, and which are so beautifully translated by the poet Byron when he wrote—

If as a second Bismarck thou wouldst rise,
Act well thy part—there all the credit lies.

At the same time any gentleman present who wanted a drink could get it down-stairs at usual prices.

A howl of disappointment followed this announcement, and, amid many threats against the persons of the traitorous translators of the mystic letters, a motion to adjourn prevailed, and the meeting broke up.

ICE AT NEW YORK.

The City Blockaded for Hours.

From the New York Tribune, Feb. 13.

The marked features of the present winter have been its extremely cold days and the sudden and violent variations in temperature. At 5 p. m. on Thursday the thermometer indicated 42 degrees above zero; thirty-six hours before it had been at zero, and twenty-four hours afterward it had fallen to near zero again. The rain of Thursday broke up the ice which had collected in solid fields in the Hudson River above the city, and the ebb-tide swept it down into the bay. A strong westerly wind combined with the next flood-tide to force it, in immense quantities, into the East River, where by the sudden fall in temperature, it became frozen, forming an ice-bridge, which, for extent and duration, has not been equaled since the memorable winter of 1835. The bridge yesterday extended from beyond Governor's Island to the Fulton street pier, on the Brooklyn side, and to Catherine Ferry on the New York side, and prevented all travel on the Fulton, Wall Street, Hamilton, and South Ferries. It is estimated to have been 5 miles in length, and in width from one-fourth of a mile to 2½ miles. Thousands of people crossed the river by the bridge at different points during the time from 11:30 a. m. to 4:30 p. m.

The interruption to travel began at a very early hour. The river became so obstructed that on the Grand street, Roosevelt street, and Thirty-fourth street ferries after daylight the boats could only make trips at long intervals. The Idaho left Brooklyn at 11 a. m., and, after a passage of an hour, made a landing several piers above her proper place. The Pacific, of the South Ferry Line, left Brooklyn at 7:30 a. m., and reached the Fulton Ferry pier in this city at 11:30, being unable to land her passengers anywhere else. The Ivory-boat, which left Brooklyn at 5 a. m. reached New York at 9 a. m. Travel was entirely suspended on all the ferries below the piers of the Brooklyn bridge after 11:30 a. m. All the attempts of the numerous steam tugs and ferry-boats to break the blockade proved ineffectual until about 4 p. m. At that hour the steamer Brill, in her last opened a channel close to the New York piers. Soon afterward a channel was opened close to the Brooklyn shore, and at 4:15 p. m. the large cake, upon which were congregated about 200 people, began slowly to move towards the bay. The Brilliant succeeded in rescuing most of them, and other tugs went to the assistance of the rest. In fifteen minutes everybody had been taken from the ice-floe except one small boy, who stood crying upon a small cake of ice. He was finally helped ashore, chilled and almost unable to move.

The Fulton ferry-boats, which, during the blockade this time, had been running to the peculiar Ferry slip on this side, soon after began to use their own pier, after an interruption of seven hours. The Gaines, of the Neptune line, which left Providence on Tuesday night, came down the Sound during the afternoon, and assisted in clearing out the obstructions. She was delayed forty-eight hours by the ice. The steamer Narragansett, from Stonington, soon followed.

The Hudson River ferry-boats experienced great difficulties in making their passages, the west wind having blown the ice in large quantities close to the New York shore. In some cases two or three hours were consumed in making trips. The Hotokem and the Pavonia ferry-boats were especially unfortunate in this respect, and the Pavonia, Susquehanna, and Secaucus were frozen in the ice, unable to proceed in any direction for several hours. Similar trouble was experienced by the Staten Island boats, and travel on the Sound is almost entirely suspended. No freight is now taken for any places along the Long Island shores.

An ice bridge was also formed yesterday between Blackwell's Island and the New York side, and it was reported that the prisoners in the Penitentiary were making their escape. The report proved to be unfounded, however, the Warden having promptly ordered the confinement to their cells of all the prisoners who usually walk on the grounds.

The accumulation of ice in the Hudson River has prevented the carrying of freight for the railroads which run through New Jersey from this city, so that a large quantity of merchandise intended for Southern and Western cities still remains in the freight-houses on this side of the river, and large quantities of goods destined for this port remain in store at Hoboken, Jersey City, and Communipaw. This seriously embarrasses the railroad companies, and works injury to merchants.

The ice blockade about Staten Island and in the Bay was continued yesterday. In Staten Island Sound, on the west side, the ice is at least a foot in thickness, and people are constantly crossing to New Jersey with teams and on ice-boats and skates. On the shore at the east side, at Cliff on the ice is in many places piled upon the beach 20 feet high, where it has been driven by the strong ebb tides.

THE IRISH RIFLE TEAM CHALLENGED.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Maj. Leach, of the Irish International Rifle Team, has written a letter, stating that the annual match for the "all-Ireland" or Leach challenge shield, which has been heretofore open to Irish clubs only, is now open to Americans also, but to no other nationality. The ranges are 1,000 and 1,100 yards each, the team to consist of four men, and the shield to remain in the country of the winning team until the next match.

LUMBER.

Annual Meeting of the Board of Trade.

Statistics of the Business for 1874—Stocks on Hand.

Reports of the President and Other Officers.

The Lumbermen's Board of Trade held its first annual meeting at the rooms of the Board, on South Water street, yesterday afternoon, Mr. A. C. Calkins, the President, in the chair.

Before proceeding with the regular business, the Chairman informed the meeting of the death of

MR. J. D. GARDINER,

a prominent and honored member of the Board, requesting that some action expressive of the esteem in which the deceased member was held be taken by the Board.

On motion, a committee, consisting of Messrs. Van Schaick, Cook, and McLaren, was appointed to prepare proper resolutions and submit them to the meeting for its action.

The Committee subsequently reported the following, which were adopted by a rising vote:

WHEREAS, We have heard with deep regret of the sudden death of John D. Gardiner, a member of this Board, and while we mourn the loss of an esteemed associate, we bow in humble silence to the will of an all-wise Providence. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That in the death of Mr. Gardiner this Board has lost one of its most efficient members; the lumber-trade of the Northwest one of its most active, energetic, and responsible representatives, and the city of Chicago a useful and public-spirited citizen.

Resolved, That the sympathy of the members of this Board is hereby extended to the family of our deceased member in this, their great bereavement; and,

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread on the records, and a record be sent to the family of the decease, and published in the Chicago daily papers.

THE PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

was then submitted, and read by the Secretary. It sets forth that the Lumbermen's Board of Trade had shared in the general depression of the business of 1874, but the low prices that had ruled the past season had undoubtedly in a great measure been owing to overproduction, and as long as the supply was as largely in excess of the demand hardly remunerative prices might be looked for by manufacturers, or a steady, healthy trade by dealers. The lumberman's business, like other trades, was subject to the great laws of supply and demand, and to ascertain as nearly as possible that supply and the probable demand from time to time, together with stocks on hand and such other matters as might lead to a more intelligent and profitable conduct of the business by a thorough dissemination of facts, was the great object of the Association.

Its organization on the 14th of February, 1874, was intended to supply a long-felt necessity by the lumbermen of Chicago, of an association not confined to any one branch or specialty of the trade, but general in its character, to include in its membership all those interested in this, one of the greatest industries of the city and the Northwest. The Board of Directors, consisting of eleven members, entered at once upon their duties, holding weekly meetings with the utmost desire of carrying out the objects of the Association. They appointed a Secretary, a Committee on Arbitration, Appeals, and Inspection, provided rooms for the Association which had been open during business hours, and provided the necessary furniture, etc. The Secretary had labored faithfully to promote the interests of the Board, opening its books, systematizing its business, and assisting the Board materially in the organization of its Inspection Department. The Committee on Arbitration had but one case before it during the year, and the Committee on Appeals none.

Before the opening of the season of navigation of 1874, the Board of Directors, after much deliberation and consultation with the Lumberman's Exchange and leading commission dealers, decided to recommend to the Association the establishment of an

INSPECTION DEPARTMENT,

to be under the charge of a Chief Inspector and deputies, with rules for the inspection and measurement of lumber sold on the market. The Board had measured about 260,000,000 feet of lumber, about four-fifths of all sold on the Exchange market, with fees amounting to about $13,500. Whether this department should be continued remained with the members, and it undoubtedly could be run at much less expense than it had been the previous year and be made more than self-sustaining.

A special committee to secure the passage of a new lien law had been appointed during the last session of the Legislature. They proceeded to Springfield for that purpose, but, owing to the near close of the session, accomplished but little. It would be very desirable to endeavor to obtain the passage of such a law. A charter should also be procured for the Association, and action taken by the Board at once.

The membership of the Board consisted of seventy-six firms, which handled four-fifths of all the lumber brought to the market. The financial affairs of the Association were in a sound condition, there being a sufficient amount in the treasury to carry the Association through until April 1, 1875. At the request of the Board of Directors, he would submit

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS:

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Board of Directors, that the Chicago Lumberman's Board of Trade is of great value to the lumber interest of Chicago and the Northwest, and should be sustained.

Resolved, That in the opinion of the Board of Directors the dues for the year 1875 should be $25, and the initiation fee for new members $10.

Resolved, That in the opinion of the Board of Directors all Chicago city yards, for the coming year, should be requested to make confidential monthly reports to the Secretary of the Board of stocks of lumber on hand and for sale in the yards on the 1st of each month; also their total sales for the previous month, and that the Secretary of the Board make monthly reports to the yards of the stock on hand and for sale in the city on the 1st of each month.

The report was unanimously adopted.

THE SECRETARY'S REPORT,

which was submitted, stated that the receipts of lumber for the year ending Dec. 31, 1874, were: 993,751,000 feet of lumber and 365,490 m of shingles by lake; 66,337,708 feet of lumber and 6,942 m of shingles by rail; in all, 1,060,088,708 feet of lumber and 372,378 m of shingles, an increase over the receipts of 1873 of 26,377,000 feet of lumber and of 70,942 m of shingles by lake, a decrease of 363,392,963 feet of lumber and an increase of 30,413 m of shingles by rail, or, in all, a decrease of 63,279,963 feet of lumber, and an increase of 101,355 m of shingles. The recorded shipments for the year ending Dec. 31, 1874, were 594,624,125 feet of lumber and 355,484 m of shingles, being an increase of 33,279,746 feet of lumber and a decrease of 52,021 m of shingles over the shipments of 1873. The city consumption for the year 1874 has been from 110,000,000 to 120,000,000 feet less than 1873.

The receipts of stock on hand and for sale in city yards Jan. 1, 1875, showed an increase over the stocks on hand and for sale Jan. 1, 1873, of 16,231,631 feet sawed lumber and timber, 51,477 m shingles, 10,721,700 pieces of lath, 210,788 cedar posts, 917,350 pickets, and a decrease of 427,098 feet of hewn timber.

THE CHIEF LUMBER INSPECTOR'S REPORT

stated that for the year ending Dec. 31 the amount of lumber measured was:

	Feet.
Straight and in kinds	233,382,343
Amount of lumber inspected	8,626,103
Amount of bill stuff measured	5,389,663
Car-load lots	229,504
Total measured and inspected	248,036,903
	Pieces.
Lath counted	35,922,050
Cedar posts	206,692
Shingles	8,641

The above amount of lath, shingles, and posts are equal to lumber of 11,360,000 feet, making a grand total of 259,404,903 feet. The total amount of fees collected was $43,424.28, and the expenses were $43,167.65.

The Committee appointed to examine the books and accounts reported as follows:

Receipts during the year	$46,424.28
Disbursements	46,088.53
Balance	$ 345.75

From a statement appended to the Secretary's report it appears that the total cost of measuring was $45,159.51, or $0.17 403-1000 per 1,000 feet.

On motion, a vote of thanks was tendered to the Secretary, Mr. G. E. Stockbridge, for his faithful services during the past year.

THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT

was submitted to the meeting by the Secretary: Decrease of lumber on hand at Lake Michigan manufacturing points Jan. 1, 1875 from Jan. 1, 1874, 24,137,165 feet. Decrease of lumber at Lake Huron points, same time, 35,000,000 feet. Decrease of logs on hand at Lake Michigan points, same time, 205,446,091 feet. Decrease of logs at Lake Huron points, same time, 20,900,000 feet. Total decrease of logs and lumber Jan. 1, 1875 from Jan. 1, 1874, 285,473,256 feet. The decrease of manufactures at Lake Michigan manufacturing points in 1874 from 1873 was 179,454,994 feet, and at the Lake Huron points 130,000,000 feet. Total, 309,454,994 feet.

AN ELECTION OF OFFICERS

for the ensuing year was then held, which resulted as follows:

President—A. C. Calkins.
Vice-President—A. A. Carpentier.
Directors—W. E. Strong, A. J. Van Schaick, T. Dash, C. A. Street, John McLaren, C. C. Thompson, A. Officer, George C. Benton, B. L. Anderson, O. D. Wetherell, M. McDonald.

A long debate on the advisability of the Inspection Department took place, which was finally deferred until Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

COMMITTEES.

The following gentlemen were appointed a Committee on Arbitration for the ensuing year: A. P. Kelly, R. P. Derickson, John Sheriff, James McMullen, C. M. Charalex.

The following were appointed a Committee of Appeals: W. D. Houghteling, A. R. Gray, A. A. Bizelow, T. W. Harvey, and J. Beidler.

The following firms were elected members of the Board: Walkup & Neepes; John Sheriff & Son; Bush & Hill; H. Wilbeck & Co.; Dean Brothers; S. K. Martin.

The meeting then adjourned.

SELF-DESTRUCTION.

A Young Man in Janesville Deliberately Commits Suicide to Escape Arrest.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

JANESVILLE, Wis., Feb. 15.—One of the most shocking suicides occurred here on Saturday night last. The victim of the bloody deed was John McDonnell, a young man about 20 years old. He seemed to have lost all respect for his parents, sister, and two brothers. His father is blind and helpless, but that did not appear to bring out any tender sympathy from John, and as for his mother and sister and two brothers, he treated them in the most brutal manner, driving his sister from the house and putting his mother in fear of her life. This abuse continued several months, till it became necessary for the family to resort to the law for protection. Last November, Officer Case had a warrant for his arrest, when he beat his father and mother in a most outrageous manner, covering their faces with the blood which came from their wounds. At this time, however, he proposed to go away from home if they would not arrest him, and his parents thought it would be best. He stayed but a few days, when he returned, and for a short time his treatment towards the family was more humane. He then began his abuse, which continued with a varied degree of brutality till Saturday afternoon between 5 and 6 o'clock, when his younger brother went for Officer Case, stating that John had pounded him badly, and the family were in fear of their lives. Case went to the house and had a talk with the young man, who seemed to be rational, and claimed that he was not well treated at home; that the family were all against him; that he could not get any work to do, and he seemed to be despondent. When Case spoke of his arrest, John drew what was supposed to be a pistol, and said he would shoot him before he would be arrested. Seeing that he could not arrest him without additional force, Mr. Case went for Marshal Keating, leaving William Knoff in the house to protect the family. The Marshal went there with some show of authority, and when he entered the house John McDonnell jumped for the pantry, and, partially closing the door after him, held the door in one hand and a razor in the other, and said that if they attempted to arrest him he would not go out of the closet alive. Marshal Keating tried to reason with him, and told him to come out, and they would talk the matter over, and probably they could settle the difficulty without any trouble, but John was determined not to compromise; he would not listen to reason, and again declared that if they took him out of the pantry they would take him out dead. The Marshal then spoke to his mother, asking her if she was afraid of him, and wished him arrested. She said she was afraid of her life, and wanted something done with him. Mr. Keating then made an advance toward the pantry-door, when John attempted to close it, but the Marshal quickly put his cane between the door and casing, which prevented it from being shut closely. He then pried the door open, but by the time he got it fully open the deed was done. In a few seconds John had drawn the razor across his throat and was dying on the floor, bleeding most profusely. He was picked up by Marshal Keating and put on a chair, but did not speak a word, and died in five minutes. A Coroner's jury was summoned as early as possible after the suicide, and a verdict rendered in accordance with the facts.

THE CAN-CAN NEWSPAPER.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

KALAMAZOO, Feb. 13.—Being away from my home (Chicago) since Saturday of last week, upon taking up the Chicago *Times* this evening I read with horror on the first page the heading, "Burned Alive—Burning of a Theatre," etc., etc.

I was horror-stricken; had no time to read the paper through, but hastened to the telegraph office to inquire about my family, who are theatre-loving and theatre-going people. In answer to my dispatch I was informed that the whole thing was nothing but an untimely and dirty joke.

Every respectable man here, with whom I have conversed about this matter, condemns the editor of the *Times* for allowing such an article to appear in the columns of his paper. The article appears like the cry, "Wolf! wolf!" and I am sure that hundreds of Chicagoans, being outside of Chicago and away from their families, on reading this article about a fire that had never taken place, will feel just as thunderstruck as I did at the first sight of it.

Everybody is disgusted with Storey, who seems obliged to resort to such means in order to command a sale of his paper.

I will conclude this letter by saying that the Chicago *Times* will hereafter be known no more in my house or office. Respectfully,

L. HANSEN.

An Indignant Arkansas Paper.

They can't say that the Arkansas papers are not opposed to lawlessness. The Dardanelle *Independent* says of a man who hit a woman with a gun-barrel: "We have not the language at our command to express our contempt for this cowardly bully. He should be kicked out of the respectable houses of this town into the streets, out of the streets into the woods, out of the woods into the adjoining mountains, where he should die, his death unhonored and unsung; but the scream of the night-owl, the wail of the panther, and the dismal howlings of the mountain wolves, should chant and sing his lullaby, and his bones never be gathered up with songs of praises, and buried with pomp, speech, and splendor, beneath the cedars; but should lie there, on the cold and cheerless mountain-side, and bleach, that memory might forget."

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Sent free by mail to any address in the United States, on receipt of the price.

AMUSEMENTS.

GILMORE.

Union Park Congregational Church,

Monday Evening, Feb. 15.

McCormick Music Hall,

Tuesday Evening, Feb. 16.

TWO GRAND CONCERTS BY GILMORE'S FAMOUS 22d Regiment Band AND Grand Concert Organization OF NEW YORK, INCLUDING MISS EMMA C. THURSBY, A young and charming Prima Donna of extraordinary musical ability.

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AND SEVERAL OTHER EMINENT SOLOISTS, Under the direction of

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The following Programme, comprising choice selections from the works of the great masters, will be performed:

McCORMICK HALL, Tuesday Evening, Feb. 16.

PROGRA

THE CITY.

COUNTY AFFAIRS.

THE SMALL-POX SCARE.

The County Commissioners met yesterday afternoon, President Burdick in the chair.

A communication was read from Dr. Cunningham, of the Poor-House and Insane Asylum, addressed to Commissioner McCaffrey, stating that he had received $40 worth of vaccine virus, which he did not need, as all the inmates of the Poor-House and Insane Asylum had been thoroughly vaccinated. Dr. Cunningham characterizes the stir made by the health authorities as "an unnecessary howl" about the small-pox at the County-Farm. He gives a history of the appearance of the disease at the Insane Asylum and Poor-House, showing that there have been but 23 cases all told, of whom 7 have died, 6 are now in the pest-house, and 10 have been removed to the convalescent wards. The disease is under complete control, and no fears of a renewal of its virulence need be entertained. The communication was referred to the Committee on Public Charities.

The annual report of the South Park Commissioners, published in THE TRIBUNE of Thursday last, was referred to the Committee on Finance.

CONTRACTS FOR SUPPLIES.

The Committee on Hospitals recommended the award to William Devine of the contract for supplying the County Hospital with pure country milk at an average price of 19 cents per gallon all the year round. The report was concurred in and the contract so awarded.

The contract for furnishing boots and shoes was awarded to Theodore Schultze.

The Joint Committee on Public Charities and Hospitals reported, recommending the award of the contract for furnishing meat, poultry, and fish to P. O'Donnell, at 5¾ cents per pound, and the bread contract for bread to Schweinfurth Bros. at 2¾ cents per pound.

Commissioner Holden, of the same Committee, submitted a minority report, recommending the award of the bread contract to Fred Volz at $2.19 per 100 pounds, being a saving of $2,480 per year from the price proposed to be awarded to Schweinfurth Bros.

Commissioner Guenther complained that Commissioner Holden had not asked him to sign the minority report, the existence of which he did not know. He should have preferred to sign the minority report if it had been presented to him in advance of the majority report.

A motion by Commissioner Crawford to lay both reports on the table for one week, in order to enable the Board to obtain new information on the subjects, was adopted.

Commissioner McCaffrey offered a resolution to the effect that hereafter all articles of supplies required by the county shall be purchased by contract. He called attention to the fact that resolutions to this effect were contained in the proceedings of December, 1871, and had never been rescinded. The matter was referred to the Committee on Public Service.

THE NEW HOSPITAL MATTER.

Commissioner Holden being called to the chair, Commissioner Burdick took the floor, and moved that the report of the Committee on Hospitals in reference to the new county hospital be recommitted, for the reason that the report had indicated no basis upon which to proceed, and no outline as to the style of hospital proposed to be built. He doubted whether an immense hospital was the thing, for the reason that plenty of people would be found to fill it if it were four times as large as the present hospital. He believed, moreover, that a building costing $50,000 would answer as well as one costing $150,000.

Commissioner Jones said the Committee had simply meant to show forth the great necessity of a new hospital, not arrogating the power to say what kind of a hospital should be built. Let the matter now be referred to a Joint Committee on Public Buildings and Hospitals, to suggest the plan and name the amount to be expended. He hoped the matter would not be referred back to the Committee on Hospitals, for they had no other report to make.

Commissioner Guenther said the Board ought either to abolish the hospital system altogther, or else build a decent hospital. If the county could pay $145,000 for a lot, why not put up a building worth $150,000?

Commissioner Crawford advocated all possible haste in the erection of a new hospital.

Commissioner Burdick favored small committees, and for that reason renewed his motion to recommit the matter to the Committee on Hospitals.

Commissioner Clough opposed this motion, believing the Committee had performed its full duty. It now remained to determine upon the plan and the cost.

The Board adjourned until Thursday next at 2 p. m., when the hospital subject will be again brought up for discussion.

THE CHICAGO ROTHSCHILDS.

A REPORT BY MR. ISAAC GREENEBAUM.

The trouble among the Chicago Rothschilds promises to furnish food for public attention and interest when once the case comes up for hearing in court. Both parties show a great deal of feeling, and the struggle bids fair to be a hot one. The bill filed by Mr. Isaac Greenebaum and published last Saturday called forth from Mr. Henry Greenebaum certain statements, whereat Isaac, who has hitherto borne an unblemished reputation, feels much aggrieved. A reporter of THE TRIBUNE yesterday called upon Isaac Greenebaum to learn what he had to say in reply to the severe imputations embodied in Henry's published expressions relative to the lawsuit. The reporter observed:

"I see that Mr. Henry Greenebaum charges that you have been stirred up by strangers to begin this suit, and that it is prompted solely by malice."

Isaac Greenebaum—That is a total misapprehension. I am acting wholly upon my own responsibility, and am led to take the step by a sense of grievous wrong sustained at the hands of my brother Henry, whose injustice left me no alternative but to apply to the courts for redress.

Reporter—Henry makes it appear that your action is gross ingratitude, as he once helped you out of trouble, and enabled you to settle up your affairs.

I. G.—There is no truth whatever in the statement. I never failed in business, never made an assignment, was never bankrupt. I had no aid from Henry Greenebaum, but settled up my business in full. I gave up my mercantile business and joined Henry in his banking operations at his earnest and repeated solicitation.

R.—What about the receipt he publishes purporting to show a wind-up of your connection with him?

I. G.—That receipt is a fraudulent document, privately concocted by Henry. My signature to it was obtained by surreptitious means. It embodies an untrue suggestion, as it relates solely to my private account with the bank, and did not contemplate my retirement from the firm. No statement of the accounts of the firm had ever passed, and no money paid over to me, so that it could not be possible that it was given as a settlement and termination of my partnership. You will notice that, though the receipt is dated January, 1874, the dissolution notice was not published until the following May.

R.—Then you wish to be understood as denying any malicious or vindictive motives in resorting to the courts?

I. G. (emphatically)—That bill was filed in good faith, and will be pressed to an issue. I have no vindictive spirit to give vent to, and no desire to create a scandal. The suit will be public when it comes off, and I shall be content to rest my case as well with the public's sense of justice as with my rights before the law.

R.—Allusion is made to your delay in commencing the suit.

I. G.—There is a good reason for that. I felt very badly at the time about the alienation and trouble—so much so that my health was impaired, and I had to go abroad in consequence. This will account for the delay. I attempted by private means to bring about a reconciliation and just settlement, but failed. I could say a great deal more about this matter, but I don't want to try the case in the newspapers, and neither do I wish to say anything harsh or injurious of my brother.

STEWART AVENUE.

IT MUST BE IMPROVED.

An adjourned meeting of the citizens of the Sixth Ward, living along and adjacent to Stewart avenue, was held at Hickey's Hall last evening to hear the report of a committee appointed to take steps to induce the Board of Public Works to force the Fort Wayne Railroad to improve the avenue as required by the ordinances granting said road the right to lay its track through said street.

The Committee reported that it had examined the city ordinances bearing on the subject, and had waited upon the Board of Public Works, which body acted very much as if it was the paid agent of the Pittsburg & Fort Wayne Railroad, instead of the people, and that the Committee was not recognized until an attorney had been employed to confront the Board, who succeeded in convincing it that the people had some rights that the railroad was bound to respect. The report stated that the Committee had secured sufficient funds to have a mandamus served on the Board to compel it to appear in Court and show cause why it had failed to enforce the ordinances for the improvement of the avenue, and that Corporation Counsel Dickey had given the opinion that the Board had full power to force the desired improvement, and had notified the railroad company to have the work done. The report concluded with the recommendation that all further proceedings be stopped for the present, or at least for such reasonable time as may be necessary to show whether such work shall be commenced.

The report was discussed at length. The opinion seemed to prevail that some definite time ought to be fixed for the commencement of the work by the railroad. The report as presented, however, was finally adopted.

On motion Messrs. Ryan, Fay, Cunningham, Connelly, and Dunn were appointed a committee to further wait upon the Board of Public Works, and to notify said Board that, unless it agreed in ten days to compel the railroad to make the improvement, that the Board would then be brought into Court to show why.

The Committee was instructed to inform the Board to-day of the action of the meeting, and to demand from it a decision ten days from date.

Mr. D. F. Ryan then presented for signatures a remonstrance to the City Council against granting the right of way to the Chicago & South Atlantic Railroad along Grove street and Stewart avenue, which was signed by most of the property-holders present.

The meeting then adjourned for two weeks.

LE MOYNE—FARWELL.

THE CONTESTEE BEGINS HIS CASE.

The Le Moyne-Farwell discussion resumed its tedious and monotonous course yesterday morning in the parlors of the Hatch House. Mr. Le Moyne was present in person, and filed his objections to the hearing of witnesses at that time and place, and before that officer, and the Court then proceeded to the examination of judges and clerks of election of the First Precinct of the Twentieth Ward.

WILLIAM CHAPLIN,

architect, was the first witness sworn. In answer to the usual questions put by Mr. Van Buren, the witness stated that he had resided in the First Precinct of the Twentieth Ward for the past three years, and had twice been judge at election. On the morning of the last election he was present when the polls of his precinct were opened, and accepted the time designated by Mr. Rasse's watch as correct. In answer to interrogatories regarding the demand made by Le Moyne's friend for the privilege of having a challenger inside, the witness said that he knew nothing about any such circumstance happening on that day. He explained how the votes were kept, and maintained that all was conducted fairly and honestly. The returns were filled out on a blank for the purpose, accompanying the ballot-box, and this copy was given to the police officers. This copy was correct, and he believed had never been altered so far as the votes for Representatives in Congress. C. B. Farwell received 422 votes and J. V. Le Moyne 251. The ballots were returned to the box after having been strung, the box was locked and was not opened again until Thursday afternoon following the election. It was then opened in the presence of the County Clerk, and the ballots counted and found to be correct. When closed, every precaution regard to the care taken in numbering the ballots, the witness stated the utmost care was taken both in numbering and in counting them. He did not see any possibility of there having been ballots bearing duplicate numbers in the box when it was returned to the County Clerk.

On cross-examination the witness testified that he was a boarder at the Hatch House at the time of the election, and that he knew several of the boarders there. The Registration Board were the judges of election. Upon being shown the poll-list he said forty-eight persons voted claiming the Hatch House as their place of residence, and that the judges left the ballots and tally-list at the Hatch House the night of election, and had not since examined them.

WILLIAM F. O'BRIEN.

The next witness examined was William F. O'Brien. The evidence of Mr. O'Brien was about the same as that of Mr. Chaplin, as he was one of the three judges at the First Precinct in the Twentieth Ward with that gentleman. The Court adjourned at about 10 o'clock at night, to meet this morning at 10 o'clock.

RELIGIOUS NEWS.

THE PRESBYTERIANS.

The Presbyterian ministers held their weekly meeting yesterday morning, led by the Rev. James MacLaughlin. The first hour was given to devotional exercises.

Under the business-head, Dr. Van Doren wanted the meeting to protest against the Sunday afternoon lecture course, which was interfering with the churches, and calling teachers from the Sabbath-school. No action was taken.

Dr. Hurd wanted the National Bible Society with which soon convene in this city, welcomed and on motion Dr. A. Mitchell was appointed to represent the meeting in a conference with the ministers of other denominations to that end.

Dr. Mitchell inquired after the Rev. C. M. Howard, who had been reported as doing a great revival work in Virginia, and who claimed to hail from Chicago. Several recognized the name, and none knew anything but good of him.

It was then resolved to return after the next meeting to the former style, from the fact that the devotional meetings were not as well attended as they should be. The Committee was accordingly instructed to prepare a programme.

The Rev. Mr. Ely was appointed to conduct the next meeting.

THE METHODISTS.

The Methodist ministers held their weekly meeting yesterday morning, Dr. Jutkins presiding. Mr. Hemenway led in prayer. There were present Messrs. Bell, Packhurst, Castine, Gurney, Martin, Felton, Leonard, Youker, Berger, Hemenway, Arnold, McGregor, Jutkins, Marsh, Briggs, Rinder, J. J. Keller, Edwards, Whitehead, Mulfinger, McKeown, Axtell, Meredith, Stokes, J. W. Duncan, Schogren, Thomas A. Miller, Kaufman, Holmes, Roecker, Cone, W. Keller, Peck, and Nale.

Messrs. Jutkins, Felton, and Marsh made reports on the effects of the revival meetings of Mrs. Van Cott, which were of a favorable character.

Mr. Edwards described a recent visit to New York and attendance on the session of the Book Committee.

Mr. Parkhurst spoke at length on "Our Management of the Missionary Society."

A resolution was passed to the effect that Pastor Keller, Presiding Elder of the German District, be requested to lead in the discussion of next Monday morning.

Mr. T. B. Carter, Secretary of the Cook County Bible Society, was introduced. He presented a letter from the Corresponding Secretary of the American Board of Foreign Bible Society, the purport of which was to canvass the propriety of holding the next anniversary of that Society in Chicago.

It was moved and carried that the A. M. F. B. S. be invited to hold their next anniversary in Chicago, and that Dr. McKeown be appointed a committee of one to act with other similar committees to facilitate the holding of the anniversary here.

The meeting then adjourned.

LOCAL LETTERS.

THE NEW COUNTY HOSPITAL.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—The County Commissioners seem inclined at last to take a very important step in the right direction. The pressing necessity for a new County Hospital has long been known to every one at all conversant with the condition of the old hospital. The location is in all regards execrable; no amount of patching or repairing can make the old tumble-down rookery now in use fit for hospital purposes: it is simply saturated with the elements of infectious diseases, and cannot be purified by any process of disinfection that will prove to be anything more than a temporary makeshift, as the sorry experience of the medical officer has abundantly demonstrated. In the judgment of the medical profession of Chicago, the Cook County Hospital was, long ago, condemned as not only unfit for use, but as positively dangerous to life. Nowadays, it is almost a disgrace to have such diseases as hospital gangrene, puerperal fever, and erysipelas in a hospital at all; but the best efforts of the staff of our County Hospital have failed to keep these fearful diseases out of its wards. It is simply an impossibility. A year or two ago a prominent English surgeon, who had already visited the worst specimens of hospitals to be found on the continent of Europe (and they have some atrocious specimens over there), visited the Cook County Hospital. He was compelled to admit that in all his travels he had "seen nothing half so bad." Have we not enjoyed the unenviable reputation of having the worst hospital on the globe long enough? The heathen city of Bombay, even, possesses a hospital infinitely superior to ours, which was built and is supported by the munificence of a wealthy Parsee Knight, and our Commissioners, here in Chicago, in the year 1875, halt and hesitate and stand in doubt about building a hospital in face of the fact that their want of action is costing a needless sacrifice of human life. The majority of the tax-paying people of Cook County will heartily approve of the speedy erection of a new hospital; they will only ask that the enterprise be carried forward on the most economical basis; that no loop-holes be left for "jobs" or "steals," and that only a portion of the hospital be built at present. But they do not desire that the sick poor shall be any longer condemned to place their lives in jeopardy for want of decent hospital accommodations.

CITIZEN.

"LOOK TO YOUR POCKETBOOK."

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—I am desirous of making use of your paper as a means whereby to warn the people of Chicago to keep their hands in close proximity to their pocketbooks while getting in and out of our crowded cars and stages.

If a detective was to take his stand (unobserved) near the corner of Washington and State streets any afternoon from the hours of 5 to 6, he might see a "peculiarity" in the movements of our practiced pickpockets, which is entirely unobserved by the police, whose duty nowadays it would seem is merely nominal. For the benefit of those who do not desire to take their stand as above mentioned and watch their proceedings, I will explain the "modus operandi," as practiced upon myself twice during the last week.

Together with my son, I ran to catch a Wabash avenue stage which had just started in advance of a car. I noticed two men who were apparently trying to reach the same vehicle; they expected, however, that we would get on the car, and just as we reached the rear end they jumped on the platform, but, finding that we were running after the stage, they left the car, and succeeded in getting into the doorway of the stage just ahead of us, blocking the way, while two others brought up the rear, wedging us in so tightly as to render it almost impossible to move. When an opportunity offered, I felt for my wallet, which, to my surprise, was gone. The object of this unusual squeezing then came clearly to mind, but it was too late for any thought of recovery, as the parties had left to hunt up another victim.

The other night this very same dodge was attempted, and, but for the watchfulness of my son, who had not forgotten my previous misfortune, I should have been minus another wallet and its contents; just as I was being jammed into the door between two men I heard my son say, "Look out, father," the which reminder I hurriedly felt for my pocket just in time to find another hand coming out from under my shawl.

There are numerous other cases to my knowledge similar in detail to those mentioned; in fact, not a day passes but some one is robbed on the public conveyances of this city, and it is high time the people were warned, that they may have their eyes open, else they can't keep their money "where it will do the most good."

A VICTIM AND DETECTIVE.

FROZEN WATER-PIPES.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—The failure of a general supply of water caused by the freezing of water-mains and supply-pipes may seem a trifling thing to those who judge of Chicagoans by the popular efforts of the People's party in favor of free beer and whisky; but there are those whose education in the use of these fluids has been entirely neglected, and who still cling to the good old beverage which nature has provided. To these the absence of water is a serious matter. Without stopping to animadvert on the evil of the mains being accessible to frost, we recognize the fact and add our suggestion as to present remedy. When the street-mains are not frozen, this may readily be accomplished. The supply-pipe is always inserted in the main on the top, and at an angle of about 45 deg.; this forms an upward curve, which, coming nearer the surface, is usually the point at which the frost first touches.

By opening the ground at the street-main and turning the shut-off, the supply-pipe can readily be detached from the main. Thaw out and empty the supply-pipe for a distance of two or three feet, then fill with salt and connect as before. The effect of the salt is to cut the ice. Then turn on the water, and the pressure from the main will force the salt through. This process proved successful with us some years ago. We think free permission should be given by the Board of Public Works to open any street for this purpose, and if the Board would take the work in hand it could, with skilled workmen and proper implements, accomplish the work quicker, cheaper, and better than by indiv dual effort.

A. M. FERRIER.

A SENSITIVE SISTER.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—Having frequent occasion to visit the reading-room of the Public Library (and I should avail myself of its facilities to a much greater extent but for the discomforts herein enumerated), I should like to call the attention of the proper authorities to the entire lack of suitable ventilation and other reforms needed there. At present, on very cold days, and especially on such evenings, the heating-apparatus is inadequate to keeping the temperature at the proper point. When too warm, an attendant opens such windows as he sees fit, causing shivering and general removal to less exposed points.

This question of ventillation is important for many reasons, and, if the management continue to slight it as now, the respectable people who desire to use the room will be forced to keep away. I say "the respectable people," and use the phrase advisedly, for there is a class of people who banni the room from early morning till late at night,—people with no occupation, and from whose persons the sweet savor ascends to an extent unendurable.

The inquiry is pertident, Is the reading-room to be monopolized by these unclean loafers and women with crying babes at breast?

FORTUNIO.

GENERAL NEWS.

It is reported that over 1,200 tickets have been taken for the Rev. John Gordon's testimonial Thursday evening, at Farwell Hall.

Men of all classes can be procured for city or country at the Young Men's Christian Association Free Employment Bureau, 145 Fifth avenue.

A church named the Forty-first Street Presbyterian Church was organized Sabbath evening, on the corner of Forty-first street and Prairie avenue. Mr. S. D. Foss was elected elder.

The Medical Society was to have held a meeting at the Galt House last evening, but as only four or five members made their appearance it was thought best to adjourn without transacting any business.

A collision between a grocery wagon and a cutter last evening, on the corner of Washington and Carpenter streets, resulted in severe injury to the head of Edward Dowe, of No. 320 West Randolph street.

Collector Mike Evans, of the South Division, paid over to County Treasurer H. B. Miller, yesterday, $40,000. To-day he proposes to levy on the South Water street merchants for delinquent town taxes for 1874.

The temperature yesterday, as observed by Manasse, optician, 88 Madison street (TRIBUNE Building), was, at 8 a. m., 10 deg. below zero; 10 a. m., 4 below; 12 m., 4 above; 3 p. m., 8; 6 p. m., 7; 8 p. m., 3.

The Western Avenue Baptist Church has invited the Rev. J. J. Irving, formerly of Glasgow, Scotland, who has been supplying the pulpit there for some weeks, to settle permanently. It is believed he will accept.

To-day young girls will compare with each other the number and costliness of the valentines they have received. Let the lady who would earn the envy of her mates remember the proverb: "She lies best who lies last."

The Post-Office authorities estimate that about 8,000 valentines passed through the city mails during last Saturday and yesterday. Besides these, there were about 1,500 dispatched to other cities. The total amount will probably aggregate 10,000.

Mr. J. Staub desires it to be announced that he has written a pamphlet entitled "More Light; or, a Brief and Compressible Outline of the Latest Materialistic Conception of the World." It is published by Frank Roehr, corner of Market and Randolph streets.

A runaway span of horses attached to a cutter struck a young girl, named Della Burns, at the corner of Madison and Halsted streets, yesterday, and severely injured her. She was taken into Dyche's drug-store and attended to, and subsequently recovered sufficiently to go to her home, No. 10 Sheffield avenue.

Saturday evening, persons who passed along the streets in the residence part of the town renewed their youth like the eagles, on seeing small boys creeping cautiously up to the doors, depositing missives under the mats, ringing the bells, and scampering away with yells of laughter to hold solemn conclaves under the nearest lamp to decide what position should next be attacked, just as the door opened and the young woman who had been lying in wait with a lamp pounced upon the epistle.

The *Inter-Ocean* is in a fair way to share the honors of being sued for libel. Sunday it made serious accusations against the Superintendent of Police, State's Attorney Reed, and his assistant, Mr. Birch. Yesterday the city editor of that paper and the reporter who penned the offensive charges were summoned to appear before the Grand Jury to-day, to substantiate the same. The summoning process created quite a flurry in that establishment.

The St. Louis *Democrat* says: "A young St. Louisan, named John Clark, was rusticating the other day in the quiet village of Chicago, a place somewhere on Lake Michigan, near the mouth of Skunk River, when he fell into the hands of the sealpers, who robbed him of a pistol and $15 in money. The worst of the affair is that the scalpers claimed to be officers of the law, the ringleader representing himself as a Justice, whereas everybody knows there never was any justice in Chicago."

A boy of 16 or thereabouts, applying for shelter last night at one of the free lodging-houses of the Relief and Aid Society, handed to the officer in charge a pocketbook containing a small sum of money, which he had picked up in the morning, and which he desired might be returned to the owner. It was ascertained that the boy had gone the entire day with scarcely a mouthful of food, but he kept the contents of the pocketbook intact until he had an opportunity to deliver it where it might eventually reach its owner. It may be had by the owner upon application to the cashier of the Relief Society, 51 LaSalle street.

Coroner Dietzsch has already shown some sublime wisdom in his investigations of violent and sudden deaths. He has not yet explained to the public the manner in which Irving W. James, a boy of 13 years, came to his death, nor is it likely that he will unless some one interests himself enough to compel him to do so. The public have a right to know whether the lad mentioned hung himself with a skate strap, was murdered, or was accidentally killed in trying experiments. When they are not kept informed in these matters the Coroner is not doing his duty. Unless Mr. Dietzsch exercises more care in important cases he will have great trouble before his term of office expires.

THE STERN SPARTAN SALOON-KEEPER.

Private interests must always be subordinated to the public welfare. A conspicuous instance of this was given during the recent coldest days in front of a saloon near the office of a newspaper on Washington street. The stone pavement was slippery as ice could be, and the wayfaring men who advencured thereon threw somersaults, and stood on their heads, and kneeled down on their back-knees with courageous celerity and determination. The saloon-keeper's waiter-boy came out, and emptied a bucket of water that had been used for rinsing glasses over the surface already glare, making its slipperiness sevenfold. Following him came the saloon-keeper's head bar-keeper, who severely censured the conduct of his assistant, and bade him screw ashes upon the ice. At this moment the saloon-keeper appeared upon the scene, and, taking in the situation at a glance, thus spake: "Yacob, once ter Roman Brutus said: 'I am ein faders, bote I am also ein aldermens too.' Ash a citizen I think you done well; ash a Coroner mit de County von Cook, of der Shtate von Illinois, I think you done wrong. I leaf you, Yacob, bote after more be barkeeper mit mine own, more times as all." Then turning to the waiter he said: "Hans, dis was a free country. Of der beebles wants to broke deir necks mit de sidewalk vot for we hafe a Gott, und der Old Possibilities, und de Raffleolutionary forefaders, und de Gonstantion, und vhy for der beebles elects ein Coroner, bote? Your heads is smooth. I elect you mein barkeeper."

JOHN D. GARDINER.

Intelligence has received yesterday of the death in New York Sunday of Mr. John D. Gardiner, an extensive lumber dealer, who for a number of years did business in this city, and who yet had large interests here at the time of his death. Mr. Gardiner was about 60 years of age. He leaves a widow and one son, Charles S., who is a member of the firm of J. D. Gardiner & Co., of which the deceased was the head.

Mr. Gardiner was formerly in business as a merchant in Milwaukee. In 1855 he embarked in the lumber business, erecting extensive sawmills at Little Susmico, Wis. In 1851 he transferred his interests from Milwaukee to this city, and started a lumber-yard at the corner of Eighteenth and Lumber streets. Ten years later, in 1871, he purchased an interest in a large tract of pine lands and extensive saw-mills near Pensacola, Fla. At the time of his death he still held this interest, the care of which frequently called him South and East. His family left for New York yesterday afternoon.

THE CITY HALL.

The Special Committee on Legislation met yesterday afternoon in the Mayor's office, but beyond some slight amendments to the bills previously drawn up no business of importance was transacted.

Officer Richardson yesterday appeared before the Board of Police on charges of conduct unbecoming a police officer, in arresting a citizen. Several of the officers and others testified that the person arrested is of a doubtful character, but at the officer's request the case was continued.

Acting-Supt. Hickey gives notice that all the patrolmen on the police force have been instructed to notify people who are too lazy and indolent to clean the snow from off the sidewalks adjoining their property. Furthermore, he intends to strictly enforce the ordinance under which this order is authorized.

The Committee on Wharves and Public Grounds will meet Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock in the City Clerk's office. Ald. Warren, Chairman of this Committee, reports that he has several encouraging offers for some of the tracts on sale, but the majority of them are low enough to admit of a great amount of competition.

Spence Prindiville, of the bookkeeper's office of the Board of Public Works, leaves the city tomorrow evening for an extended tour throughout the Southern States for the benefit of his failing health. He will visit all the principal Southern cities, arriving in about a month in Florida, where he will remain until the summer has fairly begun in this frigid climate.

City-Engineer Chesbrough states that since the water has been admitted into the new tunnel the pumping capacity of the Water-Works has been nearly doubled. Previous to the opening of the tunnel, it was possible to pump but about 35,000,000 gallons daily, whereas at present all the pumps may be kept running together, pumping in all some 60,000,000 gallons, without any fear of exhausting the water in the wells. He now considers the city as being absolutely free from all dangers from a deficient supply of water.

The most ubiquitous chap around the old rookery is the artful and artistic salesman who periodically calls upon the Aldermen and the clerks in the City Clerk's office and invariably sells them his buying large silk-framed oil paintings. He will sell his painting for whatever one will give for it, and call around the next day with another infinitely superior to the first, which he will also sell for whatever he can get, which is probably some $10 below the first one. The mysterious part of the business is, how one man can paint so many pictures. He is known to sell at least two every day, and yet the stock seems as full as ever.

The clerks in the City Collector's office yesterday received the crack valentine of the season. It is a pen-and-ink sketch of the interior of the office, with a variety of dogs having a wonderful faculty of collecting taxes standing around the counters attending to the wants of a visiting pack of dogs outside the railing, whose disturbed temper about the high taxes is plainly visible in their bull-dog heads. The clerks in the office have had every attention paid to their physical appearance and temperaments, the meekest man being represented by a shaggy, long-eared spaniel; the thinnest man by a long, lank, and lean greyhound; and the stoutest man by an enormously overgrown mastiff. The sketch is neat and accurate in all its details, and is said to be the work of Mr. J. Welding, one of the clerks in the office.

VIADUCTS.

The Board of Public Works held a conference yesterday afternoon with Messrs. Marvin Hughitt and H. A. Porter, of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway; Robert Harris, of the Burlington & Quincy Road; S. H. Kerfoot, and Samuel Johnson, property-owners interested, about the building of viaducts at Milwaukee avenue, Blue Island avenue, and Sangamon street. All present agreed upon the necessity of the viaducts, as they were incomparably superior to level crossings. The railroad officials were, of course, opposed to making all the improvements, and of standing all the expense, when the benefits accruing to the surrounding property were so enormous. They signified their willingness to build the abutments and superstructure of the bridges, provided the city would make the grades and construct the approaches. It was conceded that no general rule on the subject of the construction of viaducts, and upon whom the expense ought to fall, could be laid down; each case must be decided on its own merits. If the city constructed the approaches, it was claimed by one of the gentlemen present, they would be liable to the surrounding property-owners for damages for changing the grade, but it was afterwards learned that the property in the immediate vicinity was unimproved, and consequently there could be no damages. In regard to the proposed viaducts at Milwaukee avenue and Sangamon street, the case was different, and the city would be liable for damages. Some general conversation about the best plans to be adopted and pursued followed, and then the meeting broke up without arriving at any definite conclusion. Another meeting on the subject will take place this afternoon.

JOHN TONNER.

Mr. John Tonner, familiarly known among the fire-boys as "Tony," put in his first appearance at the Central Station yesterday; the Chief having visited him last evening, and recommended a return to active business as a means of banishing recollections connected with his wife, Mrs. Jane Tonner, lately deceased. The old man looks careworn and sorely distressed. He might well so appear after losing the companion of his joys and sorrows for three-score years. The joys of the old man during all this time, it is pleasant to recollect, exceeded far the sum of his sorrows; a fact due, in a great measure, to the tender affection of his beloved wife.

Mr. Tonner is one of the pioneers in the fire-history of Chicago, having been connected with the Department for twenty-six years. Twenty-six years' experience in the fires of a city burned so disastrously as Chicago constitutes no small contribution to the history of a city. By trade a rope-maker, Mr. Tonner served in the earliest days of the volunteer Fire Department, and was the first man paid under the paid Fire Department, as he was also the first man in the old Armory, going there with old No. 4. If the cobwebs that clustered on the begrimed ceilings of that old building could only speak to-day, they would breathe no harsh stories in reference to old man Tonner.

Among the Chiefs of the Fire Department, Mr. Tonner remembers Cyrus P. Bradley, Silas McBride, Dennis Sweenie, U. P. Harris, Robert A. Williams, and the present incumbent, Matthias Benner; and in the great fires those Chiefs have managed, Mr. Tonner has been one of the most active participants.

Mr. Tonner reared a large family, nine daughters and one son, who belonged to the Shields Guards, and is now dead. Among his sons-in-law may be mentioned Dennis Sweenie, First-Assistant Fire-Marshal; Mr. John Agnew, brother of Sheriff Agnew; John McCormick, painter and glazier; William Graves, contractor; John Depuy, a wealthy real-estate dealer in Dixon, Ill.; and John Moore, connected with insurance interests in Chicago.

Mr. Tonner has amassed considerable property, has a host of friends everywhere, and will feel as contented in Chicago as abroad. It was intimated around headquarters yesterday that he contemplated a visit to New York. The old man should abandon this idea at once, and cling in his declining years to his old associations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Mrs. Van Cott will hold meeting at 12 m. and 7:30 p. m. to-day in the First Methodist Church.

The Northmen's Singing Society will give a grand concert Saturday evening at Aurora Turner Hall.

The regular meeting of the Eighth Ward Fire Guard will take place this evening at 325 Blue Island avenue. A full attendance of the members is particularly requested.

Nathan Sheppard will deliver his lecture on "The Writings of Carlyle," with illustrative readings, this evening, at the Trinity M. E. Church, Indiana avenue, near Twenty-fourth street.

Prof. Edmund Andrews' lecture in the Y. M. C. A. Dime Course to-night on "Geysers" will be illustrated, having a geyser in full operation by the use of apparatus placed in connection with the gas-pipe.

The thirty-second annual commencement exercises of the Rush Medical College will be held in Central Hall, corner Wabash avenue and Twenty-second street, this evening at 7:30. Prof. Henry M. Lyman will deliver the address.

Campbell's new hall, located on the corner of Van Buren street and Campbell avenue, is to be dedicated Wednesday evening, Feb. 17, by the Occidentals, who will test the dancing qualities of the new hall. A pleasant affair is anticipated.

CRIMINAL

The office of Ewing & Co., No. 73 Jackson street, was entered by thieves night before last, and ransacked.

A wolf-robe was stolen out of the carriage of Comptroller Hayes on Lake street, between Ann and Curtis, last evening.

George Smith was arrested yesterday by Officer Houlihan on the charge of burglary in breaking into the house of J. M. Wallace, corner of Ogden and Trumbull avenues (Lawndale). Saturday night, and stealing a gold watch and a quantity of clothing. Justice Scully held the prisoner to the Criminal Court in bail of $600, and he was released on furnishing the required security.

Baldy Schrath was caught in the act of robbing the store of William Cline, at No. 157 Archer avenue, Saturday night, by the proprietor, and, when turned over to Officer Aron, it was discovered that he had a watch and a coat in his possession which belonged to Samuel Boyden, of No. 213 Archer avenue. The charges of burglary and larceny were entered against the prisoner, and he was committed to jail for trial.

SUSPICIOUS DEATHS.

Word was sent to the Coroner last night to investigate the circumstances attending the death of a Mrs. Sullivan, at No. 554 Butterfield street. The woman died Saturday evening, after a brief illness, and the physician who attended her refused to give a burial certificate. The neighbors suspect that deceased died from unnatural causes, and reports are in circulation that her husband is guilty of foul play, from the fact that he struck her a severe blow, and the body of deceased has an unusual appearance. Sullivan had not been arrested up to a late hour last night, and probably will not be, unless the testimony given to-day warrants his detention.

A young laboringman named John Kelly, of No. 716 South Jefferson street, died yesterday under suspicious circumstances, and Officer McTigue made inquiries and learned that on Friday night last Kelly was in a notorious saloon, kept by Peter Colvin at No. 119 Seward street, and got very drunk. A row ensued, during which Kelly was knocked senseless to the floor, and then put out in the bitter cold. He wandered about and froze his hands and feet before he was taken home. Dr. Meissler was called, and gave the opinion that amputation was the only remedy in the case. Kelly died before it was performed, and it is probable that exposure and violence combined were the causes of his demise. Sergt. O'Donnell, with a sagacity which the Coroner would do well to imitate, is making a rigid investigation of the matter, and if there are any parties guilty of foul play he proposes to arrest them and call upon Mr. Dietzsch to investigate.

SUBURBAN.

LAKE FOREST.

If a lover of the beautiful could have stood on the rostrum of Ferry Hall school-room last Friday evening, his eyes would have been delighted. He would have seen the spacious hall, from which the school-desks had been removed, filled with young ladies, in all the bright costumes and colors of a fancy-dress party. The affair was, of course, under the direction of Prof. and Mrs. Weston, but nominally given by Miss Mudgett, who gracefully received the guests.

At 8 o'clock the first young ladies entered, led by Eva St. Clair, and her faithful but eccentric Topsy. Following these were costumes as various as the styles of beauty they were designed to accompany. There was the belle in the magnificence of silk and lace, worn after the manner of 1875, and the ancient dame of the last century, in her no less rich robes of satin. A stately maiden, in the always beautiful dress of pure white, offered a striking contrast to the piquant Dolly Varden in her "coat of many colors." Little Bo Peep, accompanied by the Highland lassie, seemed completely reconciled to the loss of her charge, as well she might be, under the circumstances. The lass from the rural districts, in garb low as to the neck, and brief as to the sleeve, kindly fanned the little Esquimau, evidently oppressed by her robes of fur. Perhaps the most interesting young lady present was one the skirt of whose dress consisted of Sunday TRIBUNES, the lighter overskirt being of Waukegan *Gazettes*, the sash beautifully embroidered with missionary intelligence, and the corsage tastefully adorned with gold quotations.

It is almost invidious to mention individual costumes. One rarely sees a more complete variety; not a single dress had its duplicate, and each was perfect in its way. Though invitations were not issued till Thursday, the young ladies had combined an abundance of taste and skill with little time and indifferent facilities, producing a result truly marvelous to those who were outside the ring.

The evening was passed in dancing, promenading, and conversation. With Misses Lucas, Sweet, and Osborne at the concert grand, the temptation was not to be resisted, and

Those now danced who never danced before,
And those who always danced now danced the more.

Through the foresight of Miss Sallie Goodrich, each guest was provided with an "order of dances," and the success of this part of the evening's enjoyment was largely due to her efforts. During the evening a handsome supper was served.

The most conspicuous face in the room—that of the clock—was utterly ignored, and, when President Weston called attention to the lateness of the hour, all present felt that they had never before been so deeply impressed with the shortness of time. Let, then, this affair be made to swell the list of "good times," and let those who would add a few links to the chain of life by an evening of hearty enjoyment go and do likewise.

RAILROAD NEWS.

ATTACK ON THE BALTIMORE & OHIO.

It has always been maintained by THE TRIBUNE that the Saratoga combination has been engineered by Col. Scott, President of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, for the purpose of preventing the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad from gaining a proper foothold in Chicago. But the combination, instead of hurting the road, has only helped to establish it, and give it a reputation which it could not otherwise have obtained in five years. This favorite scheme of Mr. Scott having foundered on the opposition and good sense of our Western roads, he is now showing his hand openly, and has commenced war against the Baltimore & Ohio single-handed and at its home. This war was begun a few days ago by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company making rates from Baltimore to Chicago at 15 cents per 100 pounds on fourth-class freights, while the regular rates are 40 cents. Consequently the Baltimore & Ohio made a similar reduction from Baltimore, and sent agents to Philadelphia and contracted large amounts at 18 cents per hundred. The charges on first-class goods have been reduced from both Philadelphia and Baltimore from $1 to 50 cents. The battle is still at fever-heat, and there is no telling where the fight will end. Should it not be settled within a few days, the New York and Boston roads must necessarily become involved in the quarrel. The roads of these two cities cannot possibly maintain high rates when those of